This seminar is a survey of Russian Cinema from the 1910s to approximately 1980. The goal is to give students an overview of the historical, political and cultural contexts that produced some of the most important films of the 20th century. The course will emphasize the main genres, styles and directors of each period, beginning with the silent film era and ending with the with several films from the 1970s and 1980s. Particular attention will be paid to the political and cultural ideologies that inform the films in question. Class meetings will consist of lecture and discussion and viewing of relevant clips.

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

**READINGS MARKED WITH ASTERISK or DOUBLE ASTERISK ARE OPTIONAL (for student presentations).**

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Regular attendance and participation.
2. Completion of required readings by date assigned (consult syllabus).
3. Course Work/ Course Credit: 1 presentations (15 minutes); 20 page research paper.

**WEEK ONE:**

**Thu:** *INTRO to COURSE*

**WEEK TWO (EARLY RUSSIAN FILM):**

**M:** Screening of *After Death* (Evgenii Bauer)

**Thu:**

**WEEK THREE (EARLY RUSSIAN FILM):**
M: Screening of *The Dying Swan, Twilight of a Woman's Soul* (Evgenii Bauer)

Th:

WEEK FOUR (EARLY SOVIET CINEMA)

M: Screening of *October* (Sergei Eisenstein, 1927)

Th: Strike/October.

WEEK FIVE (EARLY SOVIET CINEMA)

M: Screening of *The Battleship Potemkin* (Sergei Eisenstein, 1926)

Th: *The Battleship Potemkin*

WEEK SIX (EARLY SOVIET CINEMA)

M: Screening of *Man With a Movie Camera* (Dziga Vertov, 1929)

Th: *Man With a Movie Camera*

WEEK SEVEN (EARLY SOVIET CINEMA)

M: *Aelita, Queen of Mars* (Iakov Protazanov, 1924).

Th: *Aelita, Queen of Mars*

**WEEK EIGHT (STALIN ERA CINEMA)**

M: Screening of *Circus* (Grigorii Alexandrov, 1936)

Th: *Circus/Volga-Volga*.

**WEEK NINE (SPRING BREAK—NO CLASSES)**

**WEEK TEN (STALIN ERA CINEMA)**

M: Screening of *Earth* (Aleksandr Dovzhenko, 1930)

Th: *Earth*

**WEEK ELEVEN (STALIN ERA CINEMA)**

M: Screening of *Ivan the Terrible* (Sergei Eisenstein, 1944)

Th: *Ivan the Terrible*

**WEEK TWELVE (POST-STALIN ERA)**

M: Screening of *The Cranes Are Flying* (Mikhail Kalatozov, 1957)

Th: *The Cranes Are Flying*

WEEK THIRTEEN (POST-STALIN ERA)

M: Screening of Andrei Rublev (Andrei Tarkovsky, 1967)

Th: Andrei Rublev

WEEK FOURTEEN (POST-STALIN ERA)

M: Screening of Solaris (Andrei Tarkovsky, 1972)

Th: Solaris
Reading: Chapter 6 in Andrei Tarkovsky: A Visual Fugue [in coursepack].

WEEK FIFTEEN (POST-STALIN ERA)


Th: The Diamond Arm

WEEK SIXTEEN (POST STALIN ERA)

M: Screening of Moscow Doesn't Believe in Tears (Vladimir Menshov, 1980)

Th: Moscow Doesn't Believe in Tears