

## **CIN 378Y British Screen Cultures: Exploring Difference**

This course offers a *critical* study of British film and visual cultures, with an emphasis on cinema that explores “difference” from the 1960s to the present day. Although earlier representative works, to include early British colonial films and the British documentary movement, will provide a foundational base for a comparative study of contemporary British cinema. Major and minor film cultures will be studied in their institutional and social contexts to include: the long-standing tradition of British realism; the Free Cinema Movement; the “New Wave;” “Swinging London;” “Thatcherite” cinema, including its heritage, art cinema, Brit-grit, queer, feminist, and Black British interventions; in addition to the recent “lad boy” underclass cycle that reconfigures the traditional conceptualization of British cinema in countenanced oppositional terms of “realism or tinsel.”

Case studies of select Black British filmmakers who have extended their practice into a multi-screen format within an art gallery context will provide opportunities to study expanded considerations of the cinematic. Debates pertinent to the way in which the moving image invokes conversations about identity, towards debating the “Englishness” of British screen culture, will be highlighted. To this end, we will explore how “difference” functions, with an emphasis on questions of race, class, gender and sexuality.

### ***Prerequisites:***

CIN 105YI **OR** relevant social science or humanities-based academic preparation: English, History, Visual Studies, Art History, Anthropology, Women and Gender Studies, Sexual Diversity Studies, Political Science or Sociology. Due to the course’s compressed nature, and the necessity of writing essays within a very short time frame, students in applied programs seeking to fulfill a humanities credit will most likely find the course challenging. CR/NCR option is not available.

### ***Assessment:***

British Film Institute Report	15%	(3 pages)
Mini Conference	20%	
In-class Test:	25%	30 August
(Essay question section of the test will be distributed to students two days before the test.)		
Short Final Paper:	20%	(7 pages)
Class Participation:	20%	

### ***Readings:***

All readings will be made available on the course’s Blackboard site.

### **Attendance and Class Participation /20%**

Our meetings will be divided between screenings and lecture/discussion. Attendance is mandatory. You should come prepared to actively participate in discussion of the assigned readings and pertinent film.