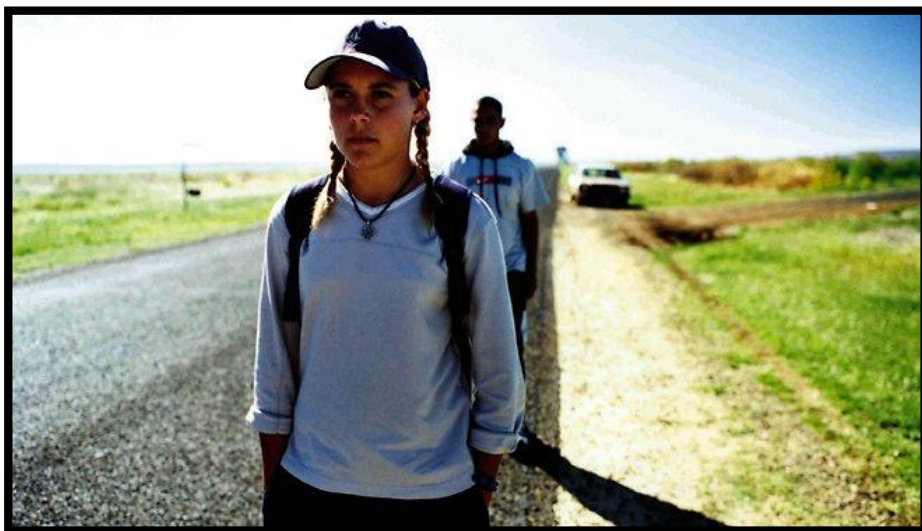


## FILM 204 Film Histories

**Trimester 1 2014**

3 March to 2 July 2014

**20 Points**



*Beneath Clouds* (2002) Ivan Sen

### IMPORTANT DATES

Teaching dates: 3 March to 6 June 2014

Easter/Mid-Trimester break: 18 April to 4 May 2014

Last assessment item due: 6<sup>th</sup> June 2014

Withdrawal Dates: Refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds). If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

### CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

**Screenings:** Tuesdays 09.00-11.50am Hugh MacKenzie HMLT 104

**Lectures:** Wednesdays 09.00-10.50am Hugh MacKenzie HMLT 104

## Tutorials

Tutorials begin in WEEK 2. Please register for tutorials via the FILM 204 site on Blackboard: go to “Tutorials” and then follow the instructions under the “S-Cubed - Tutorial Enrolment Instructions” link. Please read the instructions carefully. Tutorial rooms will be listed on S-Cubed, Blackboard and on the bulletin board outside the administration office, 83 Fairlie Terrace.

\*Please note: There will be no tutorials in Week 7, Friday the 8<sup>th</sup> of April, due to Good Friday.

## NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS

Course Coordinator:	Dr Tess Van Hemert
Email:	<a href="mailto:tess.vanhemert@vuw.ac.nz">tess.vanhemert@vuw.ac.nz</a>
Phone:	+64 4 463 6824
Room:	311, 83 Fairlie Tce
Office Hours:	Wednesday 11am -12pm

## COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you are not going to use the Victoria email address set up for you, we strongly encourage you to set a forward from the Victoria email system to the email address you do use.

Additional information will be announced at the start of lectures; in tutorials; posted on Blackboard; and via email. In particular, you should be sure to check Blackboard frequently for further updates, suggested readings and other material.

## PRESCRIPTION

This course investigates a specific period or type of film history. It will situate cinema in a particular historical context and examine how historiographical approaches can be applied in Film Studies. In 2014, the focus of the class will be on Australian Film History.

## COURSE CONTENT

Australian film and television is internationally renowned as a diverse and culturally unique national screen industry. In this course, students will be given a broad overview of the major technological and cultural developments in the Australian screen industry since the early days of cinema. The course will examine key periods, films and filmmakers within Australian screen history. The overall aim is to broaden awareness of the cultural, political and economic contexts within which the Australian screen industry has developed and operated.

## COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES (CLOS)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. Analyse a body of cinematic texts and practices in the Australian historical context, specifically in terms of key themes, genres and discourses
2. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of key films and filmmakers who have helped shape Australian cinema
3. Identify significant issues affecting the Australian screen industry and engage in debate and discussion about these industry related issues
4. Describe and engage with the existing literature on Australian film history and the specific period under study
5. Communicate rigorous, scholarly arguments based on research in a written and/or oral manner

## TEACHING FORMAT

This course will involve one lecture and one screening per week. There will also be a weekly tutorial where students will discuss the issues raised in lectures, screenings and readings.

## MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must have:

- Submitted ALL assignments, on or by the specified dates (unless extensions are approved). Failure to complete any specific coursework results in a failure for the class. No assignments will be accepted more than three days after the due date.
- Submitted all assignments both digitally (on Turnitin) and in hard copy form to 83 Fairlie Terrace (front office) **by the due date at 5 pm**. Failure to submit either the digital assignment or hardcopy assignment will result in penalties and **neither will be accepted more than three days after the due date**.
- Attended 8 out of 10 tutorials. Any additional absences must have medical or other documentation. More than 2 absences will negatively impact your participation grade.

## WORKLOAD

The expected workload for a 20 point course is 200 hours over the trimester or 13 hours per teaching week. Students should also allocate at least four hours per week to reading and class preparation. Additional time will need to be included for preparation of assignments., which can be approximately allocated as follows:

Assessment 2: 9 hours preparation

Assessment 3: 12 hours preparation

## Assessment 4: 15 hours preparation

The exact times spent preparing and writing assignments will vary depending on the individual student. Students should begin assignment preparation several weeks before the due date.

**ASSESSMENT**

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Participation in Tutorials	10%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Weeks 2-12
2	Group Presentation, 10-12 mins (students will be graded individually)	15%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Weeks 4, 5, 6
3	Review of Literature 1000-1500 words	35%	3, 4, 5	Week 9 - Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> May
4	Essay 2000-2500 words	40%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Week 12 – Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> June

**Assignment One:****Attendance and Active Participation in all Tutorials – Weeks 2-12 (10%)**

You will be assessed on the quality of your contributions to each seminar throughout the course, which includes coming to class having done the readings and being prepared to discuss them, commencing in week 2. Non-attendance without a valid excuse (such as illness) will affect your grade.

**Assignment Two:****Group Presentation (15%); Due Date: Week 4, 5 or 6 (depending on allocation)**

For this assignment you will be expected to give a 10-12 minute presentation on a key Australian feature film (not screened in class). You will choose a key scene within the film to examine using screen studies concepts, and consider three of the following aspects of filmmaking in your analysis: themes and discourses, protagonists, visual and aural motifs, narrative structure, aesthetics. Your presentation should consider the chosen film within the wider social, cultural and historical frameworks of Australian cinema.

**Assignment Three:****Review of Literature (35%) 1000-1500 words; Due Date: Week 9 - Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May**

This assignment will require you to collate and interpret research articles appropriate for inclusion in the final research essay. Further information will be posted to Blackboard.

#### **Assignment Four:**

#### **Research Essay (40%) 2000-2500 words; Due Date: Week 12 – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June**

This research essay will require you to do original research on a topic relating to Australian cinema. The essay should include critical analyses of at least four relevant films to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the key films within the wider social, cultural and historical frameworks of Australian cinema.

#### **SUBMISSION AND RETURN OF WORK**

Work provided for assessment in this course will be checked for academic integrity by Turnitin. Follow the instructions provided in the “Assignments and Turnitin” section of Blackboard.

**For all assignments both hardcopy and Turnitin digital versions must be submitted by the due date and time.** Hard-copy assignments are submitted in the drop slot outside the administration office: 83 Fairlie Terrace by 5 pm. Attach an assignment cover sheet or extension form, found on Blackboard or outside the administration office. Remember to fill in your instructor’s name.

Your marked assignment will be handed back by your instructor during class. Any uncollected assignments can be picked up from the Programme Administrator after the last day of teaching. Assignments will be held in the Administration office until the end of the following trimester. You need to show your student identification to collect marked assignments from the Administration office.

#### **EXTENSIONS AND PENALTIES**

In exceptional and unforeseen circumstances an extension may be granted, but no extensions will be granted more than THREE days past the due date (unless there is documentation of extenuating circumstances that have been communicated to the instructor and approved by them). Any work submitted after the deadline will be penalised by a 2.5 percent deduction from your total mark per day, for a maximum of three days, **after which the work will not be accepted**. Late work also receives minimal comments from your marker. If the extension request is not accompanied by appropriate documentation the assignment will receive a 0. Failure to complete any assignments will also result in a failure of the class.

If you require an extension, you **MUST** complete an extension request form (available on your course Blackboard site) **PRIOR** to the assignment due date. This must be accompanied by relevant documentation (e.g. a doctor’s certificate) where appropriate. Tutors cannot grant extensions.

**No assignment without an extension will be accepted after Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2014.**

## SET TEXTS

There is no set text for this course. Students will instead be required to access weekly readings made available on Blackboard.

## RECOMMENDED READING

### *Recommended Texts*

- Craven, I. (2001), *Australian Cinema in the 1990s: editor, Ian Craven*, Frank Cass, Portland, OR.
- Collins, Felicity, Davis, Therese. (2004). *Australian cinema after Mabo*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- O'Regan, Tom. (1996). *Australian National Cinema*. London: Routledge.
- Rayner, J. (2000). *Contemporary Australian cinema: An introduction*. Manchester: Manchester University Press.

Additional recommended readings will be made available to students on Blackboard.

## CLASS REPRESENTATIVE

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

## STUDENT FEEDBACK

Student feedback on University courses may be found at

[www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback\\_display.php](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php).

In week six or seven of the trimester your class representative will be invited to a meeting with the Programme staff. In week five your class representative will ask the class for any feedback on this course to discuss at this meeting.

## OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism)
- Aegrotats: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats)

- Academic Progress: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress) (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates)
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: [www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin)
- Grades: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades)
- Resolving academic issues: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications)
- Special passes: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications)
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute:  
[www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy)
- Student support: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support)
- Students with disabilities: [www.victoria.ac.nz/st\\_services/disability](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability)
- Student Charter: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter)
- Student Contract: [www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract)
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library/resources/subjectcontacts.html>
- Turnitin: [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin)
- University structure: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure)
- VUWSA: [www.vuwsa.org.nz](http://www.vuwsa.org.nz)
- School website: [www.victoria.ac.nz/seftms](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/seftms)

#### FILM 204 COURSE PROGRAMME

Week 1	4 March	<i>Screening: Gallipoli (1981) Peter Weir</i>
	5 March	Early Australian Cinema and the ANZAC legend
Week 2	11 March	<i>Screening: Red Dog (2011) Kriv Stenders</i>
	12 March	Australian National Identity
Week 3	18 March	<i>Screening: Puberty Blues (1981) Bruce Beresford</i>
	19 March	Australian landscapes – from the beach to the bush
Week 4	25 March	<i>Screening: Picnic at Hanging Rock (1975) Peter Weir</i>
	26 March	The Australian Film Commission and ‘quality’ Australian films

***In class Presentations due from Week 4 through to Week 6***

Week 5	1 April	<i>Screening: Not Quite Hollywood: The Wild, Untold Story of Ozploitation! (2008) Mark Hartley</i>
	2 April	1970's and Ozploitation & The rise of the 'Ocker' comedy <b><i>In class Presentations due from Week 4 through to Week 6</i></b>
Week 6	8 April	<i>Screening: Mad Max (1979) George Miller</i>
	9 April	The Glitter cycle and Australian Blockbusters <b><i>In class Presentations due from Week 4 through to Week 6</i></b>
Week 7	15 April	<i>Screening: Muriel's Wedding (1994) P. J. Hogan</i>
	16 April	The Australian Suburbs (class and location) <b><i>*No tutorials in Week 7 – Good Friday public holiday</i></b>
<b>Mid Trimester Break:</b> Friday 18 April to Sunday 4 May 2014		
Week 8	6 May	<i>Screening: Romper Stomper (1992) Geoffrey Wright</i>
	7 May	Masculinity in Australian Cinema
Week 9	13 May	<i>Screening: Little Sparrows (2010) Yu-Hsiu Camille Chen</i>
	14 May	Australian Women in Cinema – representations and key films/filmmakers <b><i>Literature Review Due Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May</i></b>
Week 10	20 May	<i>Screening: Beneath Clouds (2002) Ivan Sen</i>
	21 May	Australian Indigenous Cinema
Week 11	27 May	<i>Screening: Animal Kingdom (2010) David Michod</i>
	26 May	Australian Crime Cinema –representations and key films
Week 12	3 June	<i>Screening: Mary and Max (2009) Adam Elliot</i>
	4 June	Contemporary Australian Cinema <b><i>Research Essay Due Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June</i></b>