WOMEN'S STUDIES PROGRAM

SPRING 1989

W.S. 302-3

WOMEN AND FILM

This course is intended as an introduction to the subject of women and popular film. The course has two broad components. First, we will engage in a brief historical survey of the ways in which women have been represented in, and positioned by, popular film. The second section of the course will consist of an examination of some important aspects of feminist film theory. We begin this part of the course with a look at Laura Mulvey's classic essay on "the gaze" in cinema, and proceed from here to consider feminist film theories which draw on the traditions of psychoanalysis and semiotics.

REQUIRED READING

Haskell, Molly From Reverence to Rape (2nd ed.) Univ. of Chicago Press (1987)


de Lauretis, Teresa Alice Doesn't: Feminism; Semiotics Cinema Bloomington Ind. Univ. Press (1982)

RECOMMENDED READING

de Lauretis, Teresa Technologies of Gender: Essays on Theory, Film & Fiction Bloomington Ind. Univ. Press (1987)

ASSIGNMENTS

20% Mid-term exam (in class, open book)
20% One short paper (analysis of a screened film, 8-10 pages)
20% Tutorial participation/oral presentation
40% Term paper (20-25 pages)

A detailed lecture and screening schedule will be distributed in the first class.

Prerequisites: 60 credit hours

THIS COURSE MAY BE APPLIED AS UPPER DIVISION CREDIT IN COMMUNICATION & IN FINE & PERFORMING ARTS FOR STUDENTS WHO OBTAIN PERMISSION FOR THIS FROM THOSE DEPARTMENTS.