

AMST 3513

FILM & AMERICAN SOCIETY: THE NEW HOLLYWOOD (H credit)

Spring 2018 (Thurs 7:20 pm-10:00 pm)

Dr. David Gray



This course examines American film during the “New Hollywood” era (approximately 1966-1976). This period was one of the most transformative and influential in American film history. In the late 1960s a new wave of young filmmakers came to prominence in Hollywood. Influenced by the counterculture of the 1960s and the work of foreign filmmakers, they rejected many of the formulas that had dominated in Hollywood in the past. Thematically, their films emphasized personal and social crisis, violence, and insecurity, concerns that reflected tensions in national life and culture. In this course, we will analyze the rise of the New Hollywood and explore several films in relationship to the era’s social, cultural, and political developments.

Films analyzed include several of the following: *The Graduate* (1967); *Bonnie and Clyde* (1967); *Easy Rider* (1969); *Medium Cool* (1969); *Harold and Maude* (1971); *Klute* (1971); *Superfly* (1972); *The King of Marvin Gardens* (1972); *A Woman Under the Influence* (1974); *The Conversation* (1974); *Nashville* (1975); and *Network* (1976).

Required text: Jonathan Kirshner, *Hollywood's Last Golden Age: Politics, Society, and the Seventies Film in America* and a selection of other readings on D2L.

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