

# Theory, Art and Artistic Practices 1 (ELO-E1011)

## RETHINKING CONVENTIONS and CINEMA MANIFESTOS

Department of Film, Television and Scenography.

ELO, Aalto University.

2022/2023

Dates: 09-13.01.2023

Time: See individual schedule below.

Room: See individual schedule below.

Responsible teachers: Prof. Susanna Helke/Prof. Arturo Delgado Pereira

Teaching Language: English

Credits: 2 cr.

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### DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

*Theory, Art and Artistic Practices 1* introduces students to approaches and methodologies for practice-led research, research through artistic practices and makers' theories.

The course places a particular emphasis on cinematic conventions and cinema manifestos. What are they? How do they work? How have different artists positioned themselves towards conventions -and the world- for instance, by writing cinema manifestos?

Through lectures, discussions and assignments, students will become familiarized with critical perspectives on the film medium and some of its conventions. Students will be encouraged to reflect upon their practice and the conventions to which they engage and respond. As an assignment for the course, students will write a short cinema manifesto.

Contextualizing theory within art practice and identifying potential research questions that stem from the students' film practice and artistic work are desired outcomes for this course. This course is reading intensive. Students will have to attend the lectures and complete the assignments to gain credits for this course.

### LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Students will familiarize themselves with makers' theories, practice-led research methods and artistic research relevant to their field of study.
- Students will develop critical reading capacities of film representation and practice.
- Students will start discussing potential research questions that stem from their film practice and artistic work.

## ASSIGNMENTS

### 1. Pre-assignment.

Prior to the first session. Please read Georges Perec's "Approaches to What?" You can find the pdf in the material section of the course.

### 2. Assignment: due Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January (in-class presentation)

The assignment for the course consists of writing a small film manifesto. The students will have the opportunity to present their manifesto to the class on Friday, 13 January. More details about the assignment will be on Monday, 9 January.

## SCHEDULE

⇒ George Perec's "Approaches to What"? available in MyCourses (Materials Section)

⇒ All other reading Materials will be available in MyCourses by 9<sup>th</sup> January.

### **Monday 9 January. 9:30-16. Artistic Research. Room Q202, Väre**

9:30-10:45 Discussions of pre-assigned texts. Georges Perec's "Approaches to What?"

11-12:30. Lecture: **Practice led research.**

12:30-13:30: Lunch

13:30-16:00. **Independent Study:** Scott Mackenzie's *Film Manifestos and Global Cinema Cultures*.

All students read: Intro + 2 manifestos of your choice.

### **Tuesday 10 January. 9:30-16. Makers' Theories and Cinema Manifestos. F102, Väre**

9:30-11:30. Discussion about Manifesto reading. Teachers will provide guidelines for discussion.

12:30-16:00 Lecture on Manifesto + Screening.

### **Wednesday 11 January. Discussing Conventions. ZOOM SESSION.**

9:30-13 **Independent study:** Reading of texts for afternoon session.

14-16. **Discussion session group 2: What is a Story?**

(Half of the students; group formed on Monday 9 Jan.)

Link: <https://aalto.zoom.us/j/63940516151>

Group 2 read:

Raul Ruiz: Central Conflict Theory.

Alexandra Juhasz and Alisa Lebow: Beyond Story.

**Thursday 12 January. Independent Study. F102, Väre**

Students work on Film Manifesto assignment.

**14-16 Discussion session group 1: Montage as Convention.**

(Half of the students; group formed on Monday 9 Jan.)

Link: <https://aalto.zoom.us/j/65690679870>

Group 1 read:

Sergei Eisenstein: *Film Form*.

“A Dialectical Approach to Film Form.” (starting from page 45)

“Methods of Montage” (starting from page 72)

**Friday 13 January. Presentation of Film Manifestos. Q202, Väre**

9:30-16: Presentation of assignment: MY FILM MANIFESTO (for all students)