

## *ID7012 European Cinema and Identity*

**Module type** Option (programme module: Identities and Cultures of Europe; approved module: Comparative Literature, Literary Translation)

**Term / hours** Michaelmas / 22

**ECTS** 10

**Coordinator(s)** Prof Clodagh Brook  
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**Lecturer(s)** Prof Clodagh Brook  
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### **Module description**

This module explores how European identity is reflected and constructed on screen in the contemporary cinemas of Italy, Germany and Romania, taking a selection of case studies: national identity and religion (Italy), the construction and negotiation of national identity under and after communism (Romania), and identity in post-unification Germany. The focus is particularly on the instability of national identity, its questioning and deconstruction (Italy: the challenges to identity of growing diversity of faith; Germany: the challenges of post-unification society, the ongoing reckoning with the legacy of National Socialism and the Holocaust, the migration crisis) and Romanian cinema under communism and the challenges of change.

### **Assessment**

The module is assessed through a 5,000-word essay.

### **Indicative bibliography**

Abel, Marco, *The Counter-Cinema of the Berlin School* (Rochester, NY: Camden House, 2013)

Andall, Jacqueline, and Duncan, Derek, (eds.), *National Belongings: Hybridity in Italian Colonial and Post-colonial Cultures* (Peter Lang, 2010).

Bolton, Lucy, and Manson, Christian, (eds.), *Italy on Screen: National Identity and Italian Imaginary* (Peter Lang, 2010).

Bradatan, Costica, and Ungureanu, Camil, (eds.), *Religion in Contemporary European Cinema* (Routledge, 2014).

Cook, Roger F., Koepnick, Lutz P., Kopp, Kristen, Prager, Brad (eds.), *Berlin School Glossary: An ABC of the New Wave in German Cinema* (Bristol, Chicago: Intellect, 2013)

Fuchs, Anne, *Phantoms of War in Contemporary German Literature, Films and Discourse: The Politics of Memory* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2008).

Ginsberg, Terri & Mensch, Andrea (eds.), *A Companion to German Cinema* (Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012).

Gorzo, Andrei and Veronica Lazar, *Beyond the New Romanian Cinema: Romanian Culture, History and the Films of Radu Jude* (Lucian Blaga UP, 2023),

Nasta, Dominique, *Contemporary Romanian Cinema: The History of an Unexpected Miracle* (2011, Columbia UP).

Prager, Brad, *Phoenix* (Rochester, NY: Camden House, 2019).

### **Learning outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

- LO1 Identify and describe key issues with regard to national identity, religion, gender and memory in the cinemas of Italy, Romania and Germany respectively.
- LO2 Employ suitable critical terminology to analyse a selection of films.
- LO3 Identify and assess the place of national cinemas in constructing European identities.
- LO4 Formulate ideas on the construction of identity in Europe.
- LO5 Critically evaluate key issues regarding identity in selected European cinemas.