Now Offered in: Synchronous and Asynchronous

Course: MCS 370

Special Topics in Media and Communication Studies

Dates: 01/04/2027 - 01/22/2027

Taught By: Dr. Tracy Tinga	Meets: TuTh 1:00PM - 3:30PM	Instruction Mode: Online

THIS COURSE EXAMINES THE FILMS OF STUDIO GHIBLI THROUGH THE LENS OF CRITICAL MEDIA STUDIES. USING FILMS SUCH AS SPIRITED AWAY (2001), PRINCESS MONONOKE (1997), AND MY NEIGHBOR TOTORO (1988) AS KEY TEXTS, STUDENTS WILL EXPLORE THEMES INCLUDING IDENTITY, ENVIRONMENTALISM, GLOBALIZATION, NATIONALISM, MEMORY, AND TECHNOLOGY.

THE COURSE ALSO INVESTIGATES THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF STUDIO GHIBLI, INCLUDING ITS PRODUCTION PRACTICES, GLOBAL DISTRIBUTION, AND CULTURAL INFLUENCE, AS WELL AS AUDIENCE RECEPTION AND THE WAYS GHIBLI FILMS ARE INTERPRETED ACROSS DIFFERENT CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL CONTEXTS. THROUGH CLOSE FILM ANALYSIS AND ENGAGEMENT WITH CRITICAL AND CULTURAL MEDIA THEORIES, STUDENTS WILL DEVELOP A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF HOW STUDIO GHIBLI'S WORKS BOTH REFLECT AND SHAPE BROADER SOCIAL, CULTURAL, POLITICAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL DISCOURSES.

