Questionnaire for Consent
Please email back your questionnaire to both pduy@oberlin.edu & gan@oberlin.edu by Thursday November 5, 2015. Thank you.

Name:
Year:
Email:
T#: 

CINE 398: New Wave, New Hollywood, New Cinema Studies
Spring 2016

Professors An & Day

Since this course is a bit of an experiment, we’d like you to know what we think this course is about.

This is neither a conventional study of the French New Wave and American New Hollywood according to the traditional notions of these movements. Instead we’re more interested in the era in which these movements arose, which is why we will also be paying attention to the Japanese New Wave, too.

More specifically, we are interested in the following: why/how the idea of the “new” took such hold and seemed so important to people. This leads to a larger question we want to ask: why is the idea of “the new” so compelling in modern culture? Cinema has always been always continuously becoming new. Why localize “the new” in this particular period: for the French New Wave, it’s 1958-1963, and for the New Hollywood, it’s 1967-1974.

We will also examine how the idea of the “new wave” has organized our understanding of cinema history. It divides this history into two parts: the early era, and then the era of “the new”—or cinema’s maturity.

Why does the appearance of these New Waves correspond exactly to the birth of Cinema Studies as an academically conceived discipline? In a sense, it is the presence of these New Waves (ie. Japanese, Czech, Hong Kong, Australian, British, Italian, German, Iranian, etc.) that dictates the structure of our program at Oberlin and many Cinema Studies programs.

We want to ask how cinema studies works in the particular context of Oberlin College—in other words, how has it worked for you?

We don’t expect that you will necessarily have tremendous knowledge of the New Wave or New Hollywood, or any of these other issues. But we want you to know that there will be a significant amount of watching, reading, and writing in this course. The work asked of you will even involve a collaborative/group project. In short, we want
to be honest about the fact that this will be a very demanding course. We hope that it will be a stimulating one, too.

In fact, we really want this to be a course that students get to build with us throughout the semester. We’re coming into the semester with our own narratives, especially since we have been collaborating on a book project related to this material. But really, we are excited to experience this era with you.

QUESTIONS

1) Which cinema/media studies courses have you taken at Oberlin?

2) What has been the most stimulating moment or aspect of the Cinema Studies major for you? Why/How?

3) Tell us what makes you interested in this course.

4) Anything else we need to know? Anything else you’d like to tell us?