

This is a draft syllabus and subject to change!
Oklahoma Scholar-Leadership Enrichment Program
“Making Movies Step by Step: From Idea to Award- winning Film”
November 7-11, 2012
On the University of Oklahoma campus

Description:

This seminar will give students a unique opportunity to meet and discuss film-making with an award-winning filmmaker. Olga Malea is an award-winning Greek filmmaker, as well as the director of a number of Greek television series, and a documentary filmmaker. The focus of the seminar will be her five feature films. The class will meet in the mornings for discussion of some of the social and political issues that have provided Malea with her inspiration, and in the afternoons to watch and discuss the films. Students will have a rare opportunity to learn and talk about cinema outside of the Hollywood tradition and to gain a better appreciation for the creative process of writing and directing films by discussing with the filmmaker herself. Finally Malea will offer her own perspective about how to achieve success in a male- and corporate-dominated medium. All students are welcome to apply since the focus covers everything from film studies, international and area studies, women’s studies, to political science and more.

Visiting Scholar: Olga Malea, award-winning film and documentary producer
Faculty Facilitator: Dr. Andrew Horton, OU Film & Media Program

Course Requirements:

Prepared attendance is crucial to the success of the course, and you should come to class each day ready to analyze the material, pose questions, try out new ideas, and listen to and challenge the ideas of your classmates and teachers. The grades “S” and “U” (satisfactory/unsatisfactory) will be used for this seminar. Your grade in the class will be based on your preparation for the class; your participation in the discussions (both quality & quantity); your written work both before and after the class meetings; and your participation in all class activities. Your participation in the seminar discussions will constitute 50% of your grade. OSLEP classes are kept small in order to encourage discussion. Your contribution is essential to the success of the seminar. The seminar meets from 9-5 each day, and Saturday evening. Absences are only permitted with permission.

Students taking the seminar for graduate credit will be required to do additional research and to write an analytical paper, approximately 30-40% longer than that required for undergraduates. How much additional reading and how long the paper will be determined by the faculty resource person and the student.

Reading: supplied by OSLEP
Course packet
Vrasidas Karalis, *A History of Greek Cinema*

Assignments:

In addition to a pre-seminar assignment, assignments during the seminar will include keeping a journal on screenings and reading, completing reviews and analysis for each film, and writing a final paper of 6-10 pages, topic to be approved by Prof. Horton. Screenwriting students have the option of preparing a 6-10 page short film script on an approved concept that has grown out of your understanding of Malea’s approach to screenwriting, culture, and cinema.

Syllabus:

Day 1

Introduction: From Greek student at an American university (Yale) to screenwriter and director in Greece making the popular coming of age comedy.

Afternoon: screening and discussion of film, *The Cow's Orgasm* (1997).

Day 2

Love, sex, and career planning in Greece – How to have a life and a career.

Afternoon: Screening and discussion of film, *The Mating Game* (1999)

Day 3

Focus on the complex reality of married life for women in Greece in a changing world of families and careers as reflected in her realistic dramatic comedy *Risotto* (2000).

Afternoon: screening and discussion of the film.

Day 4

Greek politics and culture reflected through a young boy's eyes in Malea's truthful comedy, *The Little Greek Godfather* (2007).

Afternoon screening and discussion of the film.

There will be a special "Greek evening at the Hortons' home, 7-10pm with Greek food and music to further celebrate this "Big Fat Greek Special Seminar!"

Day 5

Wrapping Up and with her latest film reflecting Greece in a crisis situation, *The Chess Game* (2012) and final discussion.

Olga Malea is screenwriter and director with a law degree from the University of Athens and a PhD in Psychology from Yale University, where she also studied screenwriting and filmmaking. From 2008-2011 she worked in television, directing three TV series (20 episodes each), both hitting above 20% of the audience share. She has made six popular feature films and several documentaries and short films and has frequently been chosen by *Variety* media newspaper as one of the **Top Ten European Directors to Watch**. Her film include *The Cow's Orgasm* (1997) *The Mating Game* (1999), *Risotto* (2000), *Honey & The Pig* (2005), *Little Greek Godfather* (2007) and *The Chess Game* (2012).

Andrew Horton is the Jeanne H Smith Professor of Film & Media Studies at the University of Oklahoma and is an award-winning screenwriter and author of 27 books on film, screenwriting, culture and literature including *WRITING THE CHARACTER CENTERED SCREENPLAY* (U. of California Press, 2000, 2nd edition), and *THE FILMS OF THEO ANGELOPOULOS* (Princeton U Press, 2nd edition, 1999). He has led an OU study group to Greece almost every year since 2000.