

4660F
Seminar in Film and the Moving Image:
Paracinema
2019

Room VAC247
Wednesdays 2:30am – 5:30pm

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Office Hours: Wednesdays 1:30pm-2:30pm or by appointment

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Course Description

“Paracinema” refers to works that attempt to generate the effects of cinema without using the traditional materials or physical support of film. Art historically, the term has been used to describe sculpture, installation, and video works from the 1960s and 1970s (including, for example, Anthony McCall’s “Line Describing A Cone” [1973]) that encourage analysis of “cinema” as an idea or concept by recreating its aesthetic, spectatorial and technological dimensions through a variety of creative strategies. This course will begin with a brief survey of paracinema’s early twentieth-century precedents, followed by a more in-depth exploration of its post-1960s manifestations. It will also consider the extent to which the term facilitates productive engagements with a variety of practices since the “cinematic turn” in contemporary art.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Depth and Breadth of Knowledge

Students will have a thorough knowledge of the key critical and theoretical frameworks that pertain to the practices being studied and will be able to engage with works of art and film according to those frameworks. Specifically, this course will familiarize students with the works and debates central to investigations into the relationship between art and the cinema

2. Knowledge of Methodologies

Students will acquire the discursive/theoretical vocabularies that are utilized in debates within the disciplines of art and film, and will demonstrate their knowledge of the field through the deployment of these vocabularies in writing.

3. Application of Knowledge

Students will utilize their knowledge of appropriate methods, the vocabularies pertinent to the field, and their ability to make appropriate judgements, in order to develop a sound argument regarding a particular practice or historical development, and will be able to defend their argument according to a knowledge of scholarly works. Moreover, students will learn to evaluate written texts, analyze a diverse array of visual imagery, and think critically about the relationship between art objects, films, and their contexts.