This course traces the development of international cinema from its beginnings to World War II. Screenings this semester will focus on the contribution of women directors in silent cinema, theories of montage and of sound, German expressionism (Nosferatu; Caligari; Metropolis; M), avant-garde films, and directors Oscar Micheaux, Jean Vigo, Jean Renoir, Ernst Lubitsch, Preston Sturges, Dorothy Arzner, and the gangster film genre.