-NOIR AND-NEO-NOIR-



This course examines the film noir genre in American and International cinema in its various aesthetic and social contexts. For the first half of the course, we will focus on the stylistic and European-American foundations of film noir as well as the changing social and political forces (such as gender and the role of women, social class, the Cold War, race, etc) in American culture after World War II that are evident in key classical Hollywood film noirs. In the second half, we will consider the genre's transnational appeal, spawning from its early German-émigré and French influences to its appropriation by select Asian, European, and contemporary Hollywood filmmakers, who in turn used the film noir style to create new "neo-noirs."



