Wieland Schwanebeck, M.A.

1220	***The Rise of British Cinema***	*Wed (6)*	*HSZ E 01*
70320			
2220			
2420			
73120			
73130			

Ü	2 KP (regular and active participation, 15-minute presentation or written assignments)
PS	6 KP (regular and active participation, 15-minute presentation or written assignments, term paper)

Originally frowned upon as "quota quickies", i.e. cheap entertainment for the working classes and inferior to American and German filmmaking, British cinema has come a long way to claim an identity of its own, establishing a series of directors and immensely enjoyable films in the annals of film history. We want to study some of the most famous and entertaining films of the 1930s and 1940s, covering different genres and styles of filmmaking.

No matter if you look at film as "a multimedial narrative form based on a physical record of sounds and moving pictures" (Manfred Jahn) or, rather idealistically, as "truth 24 times a second" (Jean-Luc Godard), you need to know about elementary categories of film analysis before you can really *read* a film thoroughly and look beneath its surface, adding to the pleasure of watching it. This course is aimed at students who want to learn about the syntax of film and some of its narrative conventions.

Together, we will discuss the following films:
The 39 Steps (Alfred Hitchcock, 1935)
A Matter of Life and Death (Michael Powell & Emeric Pressburger, 1946)
The Third Man (Carol Reed, 1948)
Kind Hearts and Coronets (Robert Hamer, 1949)
Lawrence of Arabia (David Lean, 1962)

We will study classical introductions to film analysis (Monaco, Giannetti, Stam etc.) and familiarise ourselves not only with the technical aspects, but also with theoretical foundations, including the concepts of *mise-en-scène*, montage, the structure of the film plot and others.

The films will be available in an "Audiovisueller Semesterapparat" in the library (*SLUB Mediathek*) at the beginning of the term. Please write an eMail stating your name and library number to wieland.schwanebeck@gmx.de by April 1 if you want to access them.