

Tomáš Somer – Tomáš Parma: History on Film, Film on History 1 (KHI/YHFB1)

The film is a very powerful medium which is forming (among other things) our perception of history. The film itself is a historical source of its own kind. Historical film tells us very often more about the time of its origin rather than about the history depicted in the film. The aim of the course is to show how to perceive film not only as a form of art but also as a historical source. Another goal of the course is to show how a historian thinks about the historical films and of course to reveal obvious and hidden historical flaws presented in the films. Every semester the course presents different historical era (or event) and its depiction in various different films. The films (or their parts) are screened during the course with a discussion about the film afterwards. There is also one class wholly dedicated for further and more detailed discussion about the topic and the different approaches of presented films. The topic of this semester is Propaganda and film. The term “propaganda” itself will be discussed and the films should present various different forms of propaganda in the broader sense of this word. Most of the films will present WWII and 1950’s propaganda films from various countries with emphasis on US film production.

The course begins on 2nd October 2019; the course takes place in the Lecture Hall of Sts Cyril and Methodius Faculty of Theology (Univerzitní 22) in the time 17:30–20:00.