Midterm Study Guide

Tuesday, November 5th
4:00 – 5:45 pm in Oakes 105

- No aids of any kind are permitted during the exam.
- Write all answers in your blue book(s).
- If using multiple blue books, put your name on each book and number the books in sequence.
- Blue books with pages missing or ripped out will not be graded. Please check your blue books before the exam.
- All electronic devices must be switched off and placed in backpacks until the conclusion of the exam.

Part A: Sequence Analysis Essay (25 points)
A short sequence from one of the following films will be screened three times at the beginning of the exam: The Extras, Chungking Express, Shadow of a Doubt, Memories of Underdevelopment or The Conversation. You will then write a short essay of 3-5 paragraphs analyzing that sequence. Develop an argument about how selected aspects of the mise-en-scène, cinematography, editing, and/or sound help underscore themes and ideas developed in the sequence, as well as the film as a whole. You are not required to discuss all techniques used in the sequence; select techniques relevant to your argument.

Part B: Vocabulary Short-Answer Questions (5 points each / 75 points total)
You will answer 15 questions defining and comparing some of the key terms listed below. In some cases you will be asked to provide an example from one of the films or clips screened in class. Point-form responses are permitted.

- mise-en-scène
  - production design
  - set
  - setting
  - props
  - costumes
  - character blocking
  - three-point lighting
  - key light
  - fill light
  - back light
  - low-key lighting
  - high-key lighting

- cinematography
  - close-up
  - medium shot
  - long shot
  - low-angle shot
  - high-angle shot
  - canted-angle shot
  - long take
  - aspect ratio
  - deep focus
  - wide-angle lens
  - telephoto lens
  - pan
  - tilt
  - track
  - crane shot
  - zoom
  - Steadicam shot
  - hand-held shot

- editing
  - continuity editing
  - 180-degree rule
  - 30-degree rule
  - axis of action
  - shot/counter-shot
  - shot/reverse-shot
  - match-on-action (aka match cut)
  - eyeline match
  - point-of-action shot
  - parallel editing (aka cross-cutting)
  - graphic match
  - jump cut
  - montage
  - discontinuity editing
  - dissolve
  - wipe

- sound
  - diegetic sound
  - non-diegetic sound
  - synchronous (onscreen) sound
  - asynchronous (off-screen) sound
  - voice over
  - voice off
  - sound effects

freeze frame