

TITLE **EAST EUROPEAN CINEMA**
AUTHOR & AUTHORITY IN THE BRAVE NEW WORLD

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CAMERA CLCS 3670-001

DATE	SCENE	TAKE
T & H 3:40 to 5:00	BU C 302	Spring 2014

While tracing the development of the Soviet experiment from its enthusiastic inception in the 1920s to its decay and disintegration in the 1990s, this course will focus on the relationship between (cinematic) authors and (state) authorities in Eastern Europe. Discussions will deal with propaganda, censorship, and the role of art in promoting ideology. Beginning with the upbeat propagandistic Soviet musicals that proclaimed the birth of a brave new world and hailed its virtues, the course will examine some intriguing moments in the history of cinema and how the expression of core ideas varied across time and space as filmmakers in Poland, the former Yugoslavia, East Germany, Soviet and post-Soviet Russia found their unique national voices. We will screen and discuss award-winning films by prominent directors from these countries. Various film genres, from documentaries and feature films to animated shorts, will help create a fuller picture of the evolving role of ideology in the “brave new world” of communism, up to its collapse in the 1990s and the reassessment of the utopian experiment in the 21st century. Films will have English subtitles, readings and discussions will also be in English.