film schedule & lengths:

W Nov 16, we will have class at regular time/place – consult syllabus for reading assignment

PLUS

W Nov 16 @ 4 pm, meet in Milne 213 for Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, 108 min
F Nov 18 – regular class cancelled
W Nov 30 – regular class cancelled
Instead, meet in Milne 213 @ 4 pm for Taxi Driver, 113 min
W Dec 7 – regular class cancelled
Instead, meet in Milne 104 @ 4 pm for Teknolust, 85 min

Assignment:

format/length
for each film, you will write a 1-2 page response (double-spaced) based both on the film and the assigned readings from the Cinema Studies text.

due dates
For Cat-- M Nov 21
Taxi Driver, F Dec 2
Teknolust, F Dec 9

Unlike previous papers (which can be handed in as late as 5 pm on the due date), film responses must be handed in at class. Late penalties apply.

description
This assignment work best if you do the reading before the film screening, so you will know what to look for. For each response, choose one of the film studies terms (from the assigned reading in Cinema Studies) and briefly define it based on your reading (with correct page citations). Second, discuss how you perceived the role of that concept, idea or technique in the film you just viewed. A somewhat informal tone is fine, but there should be an actual argument threaded through what you write rather than “I liked,” “I didn’t like” etc. The best responses will incorporate specific examples from the film – either dialogue or detailed descriptions of particular scenes. Example: one of the terms assigned for the first week is “adaptation.” A response paper based on that term would briefly describe how Cinema Studies defines the term and then critically evaluate what has been changed from the play version of Cat and consider the effects of those changes.

evaluation
I will grade the responses portfolio-style, which means I will consider all three responses together once the final response has been handed in on Dec 9. This assignment is worth 10% of your final grade.
Here are lists of main characters'/actors’ names to help with your responses:

*Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (1958), dir. Richard Brooks
Elizabeth Taylor .... Margaret "Maggie" Pollitt
Paul Newman .... Brick Pollitt
Burl Ives .... Harvey 'Big Daddy' Pollitt
Jack Carson .... Gooper Pollitt
Judith Anderson .... Ida 'Big Momma' Pollitt
Madeleine Sherwood .... Mae Pollitt
Larry Gates .... Dr. Baugh
Vaughn Taylor .... Deacon Davis

*Taxi Driver* (1976), dir. Martin Scorsese
Robert De Niro .... Travis Bickle
Cybill Shepherd .... Betsy
Peter Boyle .... Wizard
Jodie Foster .... Iris Steensma
Harvey Keitel .... 'Sport' Matthew
Leonard Harris .... Sen. Charles Palantine
Albert Brooks .... Tom

*Teknolust* (2002), dir. Lynn Hershman-Leeson
Tilda Swinton .... Rosetta Stone/Ruby/Marline/Olive
Jeremy Davies .... Sandy
James Urbaniak .... Agent Hopper
John O'Keefe .... Professor Crick
Karen Black .... Dirty Dick
Al Nazemian .... Dr. Bea
S.U. Violet .... Dr. Aye
Josh Kornbluth .... Tim
Thomas Jay Ryan .... Preacher
Howard Swain .... Alex
Diana Demar .... Dana
John Pirruccello .... Hair Dresser
Abigail Van Alyn .... Sandy's Mom