This course examines the development of Russian cinema from its silent pre-revolutionary stage up to Post-Soviet blockbusters. It focuses on the artistic and technical achievements of Russian filmmaking and their contribution to practical and theoretical aspects of Western cinema. We will discuss the distinction between Russian cinema as an ideological tool of a totalitarian state, and western cinema as an entertainment industry. Screenings will include a variety of cinematic genres and styles such as Eisenstein's legendary *The Battleship Potemkin* (1925) and the Oscar-winning films *Moscow Does Not Believe in Tears* (1979) and *Burnt by the Sun* (1994).

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Taught in English. No prerequisite.