

***Lights, Camera, Action:  
Unforgettable Fashion on the Silver Screen!***

***Tuesdays, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM***

***September 10 - November 5***

***9 Weeks***

**Course Syllabus  
*Lifelong Learning Collaborative*  
*Fall 2024***

**Coordinators**

***Kip Brott, Celene Healy, & Laura Tucker***

**Course Description**

Who created the unforgettable world of fashion in films? From early on, we'll find a celebrated bevy of studio designers and a hit parade of glamorous stars. Edith Head, Adrian, Orry Kelly, Jean Louis, Irene Sharaff! Jean Harlow, Marlene Dietrich, Lana Turner, Elizabeth Taylor! The list goes on! A powerful combination indeed -- together they made glorious history with their stunning costumes on the silver screen. An elite cadre of famous names from the world of *haute couture* also made a distinctive contribution.

But there's more to film fashion than Hollywood's Golden Era, rich as it was. Stylish costumes never disappeared from later motion pictures -- up to the contemporary era -- including some beautifully crafted films with fashion as their central theme. Plus we've witnessed the rise of exquisitely curated exhibitions devoted to film fashion in museums throughout the world -- due recognition at last!

So all aboard for a cinematic joyride through fashion history -- ***we're goin' to the movies!***

**Format**

Class members will give a presentation on a topic they select from a prepared list. We'll also watch a movie with a dazzling array of sophisticated costumes, ***Auntie Mame*** starring Rosalind Russell in an Oscar-nominated performance.

**Resources/Expenses**

Online reading material and YouTube videos will be assigned for review before each class session. No additional expenses.

**Coordinators**

Kip Brott earned his BA and MA degrees in art history from UCLA, and he's taught a number of popular fashion courses at LLC previously. In 2022-2023 he led a fashion-themed reading group at the Athenaeum Library here in Providence.

Celene Healy is a retired English teacher who has been a member of LLC for over 10 years. She's coordinated many LLC courses, including short stories, museums of the world, and places to see and visit in Rhode Island.

Laura Tucker is a retired high tech corporate librarian and business continuity manager. She's been an LLC member for 8 years, taking mostly theatre and film courses. She's the Performing Arts liaison on the LLC Curriculum Committee and a member of the LLC Tech Committee.

We're looking forward to offering this course for you -- lights, camera, action!

**Weekly Schedule**  
**Lights, Camera, Action:**  
**Unforgettable Fashion on the Silver Screen!**  
**Fall 2024**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Session A</b>	<b>Session B</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Sept 10</b>	<b><u>Introduction to the Course</u></b> <b>Fashion in Films:</b> <b>The Golden Age of Hollywood &amp; Beyond</b> <b>+ More</b> <b>Course Syllabus</b> <b>Technical Assistance</b> <b>Coming Soon: Class Presentations!</b>	<b>Unforgettable Fashion on the Silver Screen: "All of Everything"</b> <b>Kip Brott</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Sept 17</b>	<b>Golden Age Designers:</b> <b>Edith Head</b> <b>Presentation: Gordon Hayes</b>	<b>Golden Age Designers:</b> <b>Adrian</b> <b>Presentation: Linda Guccione</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Sept 24</b>	<b>Golden Age Designers: Orry-Kelly</b> <b>Presentation: Cristine Young</b>	<b>Golden Age Designers:</b> <b>Charles LeMaire</b> <b>Presentation: Betty Havrylik</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Oct 1</b>	<b>Golden Age Designers: Jean Louis</b> <b>Presentation: Gloria DePaola</b>	<b>Golden Age Designers: Irene Sharaff</b> <b>Presentation: De Feldman</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Oct 8</b>	<b>Screen Goddesses: Jean Harlow</b> <b>Presentation: Patty Reynolds</b>	<b>Screen Goddesses: Marlene Dietrich</b> <b>Presentation: Pat Moriarty</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Oct 15</b>	<b>Screen Goddesses: Lana Turner</b> <b>Presentation: Mary Ellen O'Sullivan</b>	<b>Dress to Impress:</b> <b>Fashion-Themed Films Take Center Stage</b> <b>Presentation: Susan Baugh</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Oct 22</b>	<b><u>Movie Day</u></b> <b>Auntie Mame (1958)</b> <b>Starring Rosalind Russell</b> <b>Costumes by Orry Kelly</b> <b>(We'll watch the movie at home with Class Discussion in this slot led by Rosemary Lowenstein &amp; Coordinators)</b>	<b>European Glamour:</b> <b>Haute Couture Designers Come to the Movies</b> <b>Presentation: Kip Brott</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Oct 29</b>	<b>Screen Goddesses: Elizabeth Taylor</b> <b>Presentation: Karen Borger &amp; Jill Tobak</b>	<b>Beyond the Golden Age:</b> <b>Stylish Costumes Are Always in Vogue!</b> <b>Presentation: Mary Welch</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Nov 5</b>	<b>Cinematic Fashion Hits the World's Museums</b> <b>Presentation: Rosalind Kurzer</b>	<b>"That's a Wrap!"</b> <b>Class Discussion</b> <b>What We've Learned</b> <b>Our Favorite Movies Ever -- &amp; Why!</b>

**Weekly Reading & Video Assignments**  
***Lights, Camera, Action:***  
***Unforgettable Fashion on the Silver Screen!***

**Week 1 – September 10**

**Session A**

***Introduction to the Course -- Welcome!***  
***Fashion in Films: The Golden Age of Hollywood & Beyond + More***  
***Presentation: Course Coordinators***

**Reading Assignments**

***Hollywood's Influence on Fashion***

**<https://www.universityoffashion.com/blog/hollywoods-influence-on-fashion/>**

***The Evolving Intersection of Fashion & Film***

**<https://www.yellowbrick.co/blog/fashion/the-evolving-intersection-of-fashion-and-film#:~:text=Fashion%20in%20film%20can%20inspire,%2C%20of%20fashion%20consulting%2C%20and%20more.>**

**Session B**

***Unforgettable Fashion on the Silver Screen -- "All of Everything"***  
***Presentation: Kip Brott***

**Reading Assignment**

***19 Iconic Fashion Moments from Cinematic History***

**<https://www.shutterstock.com/blog/iconic-fashion-moments-cinematic-history>**

**Videos**

***Top 10 Most Fashionable Characters from Classic Hollywood Movies***

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xx51COVbCm0>**

***The Costume Designer***

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gCmXDnneSlg>**

**Week 2 – September 17**

**Session A**

***Golden Age Designers: Edith Head***  
***Presentation: Gordon Hayes***

**Reading Assignment**

***30 Fantastic Movie Costumes by the Legendary Edith Head***

**<https://www.thecut.com/2013/10/30-fantastic-movie-costumes-by-edith-head.html>**

**Video**

***Edith Head Shows Some of Her Most Famous Gowns Worn by Legends***

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gxNHEvmEFQk>**

**Session B**

**Golden Age Designers: Adrian  
Presentation: Linda Guccione**

**Reading Assignment**

**Adrian**

<http://adrianoriginal.com/life-of-adrian/>

**Video**

**Gilbert Adrian: Hollywood Style**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yq5TI6CCOOI>

**Week 3 – September 24**

**Session A**

**Golden Age Designers: Orry-Kelly  
Presentation: Cristine Young**

**Reading Assignment**

**Orry-Kelly: Master of Form**

<https://blog.seamwork.com/inspiration/orry-kelly-2/>

**Video**

**Women He's Undressed: Official Trailer**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sFjn2ujlrZo>

**Session B**

**Golden Age Designers: Charles LeMaire  
Presentation: Betty Havrylik**

**Reading Assignment**

**Queerplaces Blogspot: Charles LeMaire**

<http://www.elisarolle.com/queerplaces/ch-d-e/Charles%20LeMaire.html>

**Video**

**Woman's World: Movie Trailer, 1954**

Featuring very memorable costumes for June Allyson, Lauren Bacall & Arlene Dahl by Charles LeMaire

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WoRB\\_axwLL4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WoRB_axwLL4)

**Week 4 – October 1**

**Session A**

**Golden Age Designers: Jean Louis  
Presentation: Gloria DePaola**

**Reading Assignment**

**The Style Icon: Jean Louis**

<https://www.whidbeyislandfilmfestival.org/the-vault/2018/10/30/style-icon-jean-louis>

**Videos**

**Costumes by Jean Louis: Gilda, 1946**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kaYzLQdDcv8>

*A Thoroughly Modern Wardrobe: Jean Louis, 1967*  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aEfZTlvMqRo>

**Session B**  
**Golden Age Designers: Irene Sharaff**  
**Presentation: De Feldman**

**Reading Assignment**  
*Irene Sharaff's Costume Designs*  
<https://artsandculture.google.com/story/irene-sharaff-s-costume-designs-new-york-public-library-for-the-performing-arts/pwWx1MvzC-XLw?hl=en>

**Video**  
*Irene Sharaff: 50 Costumes in 50 Seconds*  
<https://www.youtube.com/shorts/jHX219PbcGA>  
**Week 5 – October 8**

**Session A**  
**Screen Goddesses: Jean Harlow**  
**Presentation: Patty Reynolds**

**Reading Assignment**  
*Jean Harlow As a Fashion Icon*  
<https://www.tutorialspoint.com/jean-harlow-as-a-fashion-icon>

**Video**  
*Jean Harlow: Footage Collection*  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XfOdzCOp-dM>

**Session B**  
**Screen Goddesses: Marlene Dietrich**  
**Presentation: Pat Moriarty**

**Reading Assignment**  
*A Look at Marlene Dietrich and Her Trailblazing Modern Style*  
<https://www.veranda.com/luxury-lifestyle/luxury-fashion-jewelry/g34968243/marlene-dietrich-style/>

**Video**  
*Marlene Dietrich: A Lesson in Grand Style*  
<https://youtu.be/V-URF92ei8Y?si=BYWnZKQULvZpuajn>

**WEEK 6 – October 15**

**Session A**  
**Screen Goddesses: Lana Turner**  
**Presentation: Mary Ellen O'Sullivan**

**Reading Assignment**

**Lana Turner's Style**  
<https://www.bypanttheavine.com/post/lana-turners-style>

**Video**  
**Lana Turner's Million Dollar Wardrobe**  
<https://youtu.be/vh9hqoOLmzo?si=hlnGrGfrGWcUBJhI>

**Session B**  
**Dress to Impress: Fashion-Themed Films Take Center Stage**  
**Presentation: Susan Baugh**

**Reading Assignment**  
**The Most Iconic Fashion Films of All Time**  
<https://www.vogue.com/article/best-fashion-movies>

**Video**  
**Top 10 Best Movies About the Fashion Industry**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LfHUvvh5qIA>

**Week 7 – October 22**

**Session A**  
**Film: Auntie Mame (1959)**  
**Starring Rosalind Russell - Costumes by Orry-Kelly**  
*We'll watch this delightful cinematic romp at home, with a rousing class discussion  
In this slot led by Rosemary Lowenstein & Coordinators to follow.*  
**FREE LINK TO FILM:** [https://tubitv.com/movies/100012230/auntie-mame?start=true&tracking=google-feed&utm\\_source=google-feed](https://tubitv.com/movies/100012230/auntie-mame?start=true&tracking=google-feed&utm_source=google-feed)

**Reading Assignment**  
**Film Fashion Blogathon: Auntie Mame (1958)**  
<https://javabeanrush.blogspot.com/2011/09/hollywood-revue-film-fashion-blogathon.html>

**Video**  
**Auntie Mame: Official Trailer, 1958**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2gsRMtl70aQ>

**Session B**  
**European Glamour: Haute Couture Designers Come to the Silver Screen**  
**Presentation: Kip Brott**

**Reading Assignment**  
**15 Stylish Movies With Costumes Made by Famous Designers**  
<https://www.vogue.com/article/15-fashion-movies-designer-costumes>

**Video**  
**How Audrey Hepburn and Hubert De Givenchy Redefined Fashion in Movies**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aty4OIfDOvo>

**WEEK 8 – October 29**

**Session A**  
**Screen Goddesses: Elizabeth Taylor**  
**Presentation: Karen Borger & Jill Tobak**

**Reading Assignment**  
**Elizabeth Taylor: Fashion Moments**  
<https://www.fashion-mommy.com/elizabeth-taylor-fashion-moments/>

**Video**  
**Hollywood Fashion Machine: Liz Taylor**  
[https://youtu.be/9BQY-do8T-w?si=6VkGC6KHc1K\\_7VxK](https://youtu.be/9BQY-do8T-w?si=6VkGC6KHc1K_7VxK)

**Session B**  
**Beyond the Golden Age: Stylish Costumes Forever in Vogue!**  
**Presentation: Mary Welch**

**Reading Assignment**  
**What is New Hollywood: The Revolution of the 1960's & 1970's**  
<https://www.studiobinder.com/blog/what-is-new-hollywood/>  
**The 25 Most Fashionable Films of All Time**  
<https://www.harpersbazaar.com/culture/film-tv/g45429359/best-fashion-movies/>

**Video**  
**Winners of the Best Costume Design Oscar, 1948 - 2020**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RX3XvqbPEoY>

**WEEK 9 – November 5**

**Session A**  
**Cinematic Fashion Hits the Museums**  
**Presentation: Rosalind Kurzer**

**Reading Assignment**  
**Hollywood Costume Exhibit: Victoria & Albert Museum, London, 2013**  
<http://www.vam.ac.uk/content/exhibitions/exhibition-hollywood-costume/about-the-exhibition/>

**Video**  
**A Look at The Greatest Costumes In Hollywood: Academy Museum of Motion Pictures**  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qz8on1d4W\\_o](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qz8on1d4W_o)

**Session B**  
**“That’s a Wrap!”**  
**What We’ve Learned**  
**Our Favorite Movies Ever -- & Why!**

**Guidelines for Presentations**  
**Lights, Camera, Action:**  
**Unforgettable Fashion on the Silver Screen!**  
**Fall 2024**

**FORMAT**

Following our historical timeline, **each week two participants will give a presentation and lead a discussion for the group, one participant in Session A and the other in Session B in our 9-week course.**

**A. Participants will select the topic of their presentations in advance on a first-come, first-served basis from a list of costume designers, screen goddesses, and related topics prepared by the coordinators.** We will need a total of 13 presenters, so it will be important that most everyone sign up to present depending on our total enrollment. If you wish, you may double up with a partner so long as all sessions are covered.

**B. There are many different formats you may use for your presentation,** including Power Point, Google Slides, videos, film clips, flip charts, and handouts. But no matter what format you use, remember that fashion is a visual medium **so be sure to include plenty of pictures and visual aids.** If you have garments or accessories that are relevant to your topic, bring them along to show the class! Want to dress up like your designer, screen goddess, or favorite movie character? ***Do it!***

**C. To complement the weekly presentations, the coordinators will assign reading material and videos of reasonable length that are to be reviewed in advance of each class.** When you present, you may also wish to suggest an article, video, or some discussion questions to the class ahead of time. If so, you can send out this information yourself, or you can send it to Laura & she will forward it to the class. Please try to get this information to your classmates as early as possible (e.g., at least one week ahead).

**D. Ideally your presentation should be approximately 30 minutes long with an additional 15 minutes for a discussion** led by you afterward, with assistance from the coordinators.

**CONTENT**

There are many ways to organize your material for this course, whether your presentation topic is a fashion designer from the Golden Age of Hollywood, a classic screen goddess who wore their beautiful costumes, or other related topics. Film costumes have inspired the public with their beauty and originality for over 100 years now and are sure to create a lasting impact for generations to come. **With this in mind, you should focus on the following factors in your presentations:**

**A. If you're presenting on a renowned costume designer or a "movie star:"** Consider such biographical questions as: When and where were they born? What were the key people and events of their lives and how did these events shape their careers? For what are they best known or remembered in terms of their impact on film history?

**B. if you're presenting on another topic related to the history of fashion in films:** A few of our presentations won't be focused on individuals, but rather on other topics related to film fashion history (e.g., costumes post-Golden Age, movies that have fashion as a theme, museum exhibits dealing with Hollywood fashion). Take a chronological or historical approach where relevant and make sure you highlight what designers, stars, or films best illustrate the points you wish to make. This will help demonstrate one of the key precepts of our course: ***That film costumes are a distinctive niche in fashion history -- a unique expression of beautiful clothing that warrants our full consideration!***

**RESEARCH**

A few suggestions for conducting research on your fashion icon:



A. **The Internet has a wealth of information** on the various topics we'll be considering. Just enter a search request – for example, “Elizabeth Taylor films” or “Elizabeth Taylor costumes” and you may be surprised how much material comes up for your review (e.g., articles, videos, film clips, etc.).

B. **Books and magazines are another great source of information** (from the local library -- or try Amazon, Abe, E-Bay, etc. if you care to purchase at nominal cost). **Old movie magazines are particularly fun!**

C. **The coordinators will provide a selected bibliography** useful for preparing presentations or for optional further study. Some of these books are owned by the coordinators and they will be happy to loan them to class participants.

D. **Prior discussion of presentation with coordinators (especially Laura!):** The coordinators welcome the opportunity to meet with you before your presentation to discuss your topic and strategize on how to present it. Meetings can be scheduled in person or by phone or email.

#### ***ADDITIONAL TIPS***

A. **We will be studying a very exciting topic -- the history of fashion in films** --so your audience will be geared up in advance to learn. **Relax and enjoy putting your presentation together for them!**

B. **Get organized!** Your fellow classmates will get the most from your presentation if it is presented systematically. Make an outline – what do you want to say and when do you want to say it? For example, you could start with an introduction that grabs their attention, continue with an illustrated discussion of your topic step-by-step, and end your remarks with a pithy conclusion that stimulates them to learn even more.

C. **Please do not read your entire presentation.** It's fine to work from notes but be sufficiently familiar with your material that you can speak to your classmates naturally. Eye contact is important too!

D. **Rehearse your presentation in advance.** Make sure you can move through your content easily within the allotted time. You might want to get feedback by presenting to a fellow classmate, friend, or family member. Listen to their suggestions and revise your slides/remarks to improve your impact on your audience.

E. **Check and recheck the technology you are using as part of your presentation.** Verify tech compatibility in the classroom the week before your presentation with one of the coordinators, especially Laura, (this will just take a few minutes). Various software programs can be used (PowerPoint, Google Slides, Apple Keynote, etc.) for your presentation. **Laura can provide further details on this.**

F. **For additional excellent suggestions** please consult LLC's Collaborative Learning Guidelines, especially pages 16-24. The link on LLC's website is: <https://www.lifelonglearningcollaborative.org/wp-content/uploads/Guidelines.pdf>

**Selected Bibliography for Further Reading**  
**Lights, Camera, Action:**  
**Unforgettable Fashion on the Silver Screen!**  
**Fall 2024**

WEEK 1

*Introduction to the Course: The Golden Age of Hollywood & Beyond + More*  
**Unforgettable Fashion on the Silver Screen: “All of Everything”**

*Designing Hollywood: Studio Wardrobe in the Golden Age,*  
by Christian Esquevin, University of Kentucky Press, 2023

\**Hollywood Costume Design*, by David Chierichetti, Harmony Books, 1976

\**Star Style: Hollywood Legends As Fashion Icons*, by Patty Fox, Angel City Press, 1999

WEEK 2

Edith Head

\**Edith Head: The Life and Times of Hollywood’s Celebrated Costume Designer*,  
by David Chierichetti, Harper, 2003

Adrian

\**Adrian: A Lifetime of Movie Glamour, Art and High Fashion*,  
by Leonard Stanley, Rizzoli, 2019

WEEK 3

Orry-Kelly

\**Women I’ve Undressed: The Fabulous Life and Times of a Legendary Hollywood Designer*,  
by Orry-Kelly, Allen & Unwin, 2016

Charles LeMaire

**Charles LeMaire Obituary, Los Angeles Times, 1983**

**<https://www.latimes.com/archives/la-xpm-1985-06-11-mn-10385-story.html>**

WEEK 4

Jean Louis

N/A

Irene Sharaff

*Broadway & Hollywood: Costumes designed by Irene Sharaff*,  
by Irene Sharaff, Van Nostrand Reinhold Co., 1976

WEEK 5

Jean Harlow

*Harlow in Hollywood: The Blonde Bombshell in the Glamour Capital, 1928-1937*,  
by Darrel Rooney & Mark A. Vieira, Angel City Press, 2022

Marlene Dietrich

\**Blue Angel: The Life of Marlene Dietrich*, by Donald Spoto, Doubleday, 1992

\**Marlene*, by Charles Chandler, Simon & Schuster, 2011

WEEK 6

Lana Turner

*Lana: The Lady, the Legend, the Truth*, by Lana Turner, Dutton, 1982

*Lana: The Life & Loves of Lana Turner*, by Jane Ellen Wayne, St. Martin's Press, 1995

Elizabeth Taylor

*Elizabeth Taylor: The Grit & Glamour of an Icon*, by Kate Andersen Brower, Harper, 2022

WEEK 7

Film: Auntie Mame (1958)

\**Auntie Mame*, Patrick Dennis, Vanguard Press, 1955

European Glamour: Haute Couture Designers Come to the Movies

\**Fashion in Film*, by Christopher Laverty, Laurence King Publishing, 2021

WEEK 8

Beyond the Golden Age: Stylish Costumes Are Always in Vogue!

*Contemporary Costume Film: Space, Place and the Past*,  
by Julianne Pidduck, British Film Institute, 2007

Dress to Impress: Movies Where Fashion Takes the Center Stage

*The 25 Most Fashionable Films of All Time*, by Joan Summers, Harper's Bazaar, October 2023

<https://www.harpersbazaar.com/culture/film-tv/g45429359/best-fashion-movies/>

WEEK 9

Cinematic Fashion Hits the World's Museums

*The Costume Institute at the Metropolitan Museum of Art*

<https://www.metmuseum.org/about-the-met/collection-areas/the-costume-institute>

*Bunka Gakuen Costume Museum*, Go Tokyo Website

<https://www.gotokyo.org/en/spot/143/index.html>

Final Session: "That's a Wrap!"

*100 Best Movies*, American Film Institute Website

<https://www.afi.com/afis-100-years-100-movies-10th-anniversary-edition/>

\*Please Note: Books marked with (\*) are owned by Kip and are available for loan to class participants to assist with presentations or for further study.