CURRICULUM VITAE

Prof WILLIAM HIGBEE
College of Humanities
Rm 111, Queens Building
University of Exeter
UNITED KINGDOM
w.e.higbee@exeter.ac.uk

Date of birth: 29/12/73 Nationality: British

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

2001     PhD ‘Ethnicity and marginality in French cinema of the 1980s and 1990s’, University of Exeter. Viva passed with no corrections. Examiners: Professor Ginette Vincendeau (external), Professor Colin MacCabe (internal).
1996     BA (Hons) French, University of Birmingham (1st Class)

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2014-present Associate Professor French/Film Studies, University of Exeter.
2006-2014 Senior Lecturer in French/Film Studies, University of Exeter.
2002-2006 Lecturer in French, University of Exeter

PUBLICATIONS

Books (Authored and edited)


Chapters in Books

This 8000-word chapter forms part of a new edited collection to be published in 2016 on Middlebrow cinema. The chapter explores middlebrow cinema from a transnational perspective by focusing on two recent films by French directors of North African immigrant origin, *Indigènes* (Bouchareb 2006) and *Vénus noire* (Kechiche, 2010) that challenge Eurocentric versions of French (colonial) history. The two films are examined in order to question whether or not the concept of the middlebrow, and its association with accessibility, social mobility and the ability to think through change, might actually be a more profitable way of analysing the contemporary French historical film than the more commonly-used term 'heritage film' or *fiction patrimoniale*.


A new, 6000-word chapter, commissioned by the editors of this key publication on French cinema for the expanded second edition.


**Journal Articles**


[This article was REPRINTED by request in 2012 as part of a special edition on migration and diaspora in film in *Crossings: Journal of Migration and Culture*, 3:2, (Intellect, UK)].


### Review Articles


### General Editorship of Journals

*Studies in French Cinema* 2006-present

### Grants and Funding (external)

**2015**
PI, Arts and Humanities Research Council, Standard Research Grant, ‘Transnational Moroccan Cinema’. **£482,132**

Award confirmed by AHRC August 2015, project commences 1st December 2015 (36 months). The project is an international collaboration with Higbee as PI, an international CI from the USA, two post-doc research fellows and partner institutions in Morocco (Ecole Supérieure des Arts Visuels [ESAV], Marrakech and Marrakech International Film Festival) and the UK (Africa in Motion Film Festival, Edinburgh and the London Film School). Outputs from the project will include: a 120 000 word co-authored monograph; two journal articles, an edited collection of conference proceedings; a project website and the curation of a programme of Moroccan films at the Africa in Motion festival (2018), including commissioned short films by two emerging Moroccan directors who will have spent a term (funded by the AHRC) as filmmakers in residence at the London Film School.

**2007**
British Academy Conference Grant to fund keynote speakers for the ‘Re-presenting Diasporas in Cinema and New (Digital) Media’ conference, **£1,317**

**2005**
AHRC matched funding award for 12 months research leave, **£16,015**

### Grants and Funding (internal)

**2007**
Funding from the University of Exeter Information Society Network (ISN) to fund two additional speakers for the ‘Re-presenting Diasporas in Cinema and New (Digital) Media conference **£1,012**

### TEACHING

**Undergraduate:**

**Level 1**

**EAF1505 Transnational cinemas**
Lecturer/tutor /convenor. 15-20 students per year. 2003-14.

**EAF1501 Major Debates in Film Theory (formerly MLC1205)**
Lecturer/tutor /convenor. 15-20 students per year. 2002-13.

**EAF1503 Introduction to Film Analysis**
Lecturer. 15-20 students per year. 2010-14.

EAF1504 Introduction to Film History
Lecturer. 15-20 students per year. 2010-present.

EAS1034 Introduction to Film Studies
Lecturer / tutor. 60 students per year. 2009-present.

MLF1119 French Cinema since the New Wave
Lecturer/tutor/convenor. 40-60 students per year. 2002-05; 2010-present.

Level 2

MLF2042: Post-colonial francophone cinema
Lecturer/tutor/convenor. 20-30 students per year. 2002-05; 2010-present

EAF2508: Cinescapes: Time, Space and Identity
Lecturer/tutor. 15-20 students per year. 2007-10.

Level 3

MLC3010/EAF3509: Diasporic cinemas
Lecturer/tutor/convenor. 10-35 students per year. 2007-present.

MLC3201/SML3030/EAS3003: Dissertation
Tutor, 2-8 students per year. 2002-present

Postgraduate

EAFM200 Distribution and Markets
Tutor/convenor 2014-present
30 students

EAFM202 Models of Innovation
Tutor/convenor 2014-present
30 students

EAFM203 Dissertation / EAFM204 Dissertation Project
Supervisor/convenor 2014-present
30 students

New Courses and Innovation in Teaching

Between 2002 and 2009 I was involved in developing and delivering film studies modules in film by practice as part of the ‘BA Film Studies: theory and practice’, one of the first university film studies programmes in the UK to incorporate creative practice. I was also involved designing, developing and delivering the MA Film Studies via distance learning, which ran between 2005 and 2010, attracting approximately 35 students during this period. The distance learning MA, a collaborative project between film specialists in Modern Languages and the Department of Life Long Learning, was aimed primarily at part-time students located nationally and internationally and as such had implications for both outreach and widening participation in what was then the School of Modern Languages.
Since January 2012, I have taken a central role in the academic partnership between Exeter University and the London Film School (LFS). Alongside the development of the PhD Film practice programme, the other key area of collaboration with the LFS has been developing a new MA programme: the MA in International Film Business (MAIFB). Taught between the College of Humanities (Exeter), the Exeter Business School and the London Film School, the MAIFB aims to train the next generation of international film industry executives (financiers, sales agents, distributors, producers, festival organisers) and includes genuine interaction with industry professionals (visiting speakers and a mentoring programme as part of the dissertation), the opportunity to curate a pop-up cinema event as part of assessment for the MA, and a field trip to the Berlinale (Berlin Film Festival and European Film Market). I have been involved at every stage of the development of this new and innovative MA programme from the inception of the project approximately two and a half years ago. I am co-director of the MAIFB along with Angus Finney from the LFS. The MA programme welcomed its first cohort of 29 students in September 2014 (target from Exeter University Admissions for the initial intake was 10-12 students). 28 students began the second year of the programme in September 2015 and interest is already strong for 2015/16.

## EXTERNAL EXAMINING

- **April 2015**  
  External assessor, involved in annual monitoring of PhD students and PhD practice programmes delivered at the Houston School of Film and Digital Media, Galway (approx. 20 PhD students)

- **Jan 2014**  
  External examiner, MPhil Thesis, Film (University of Bristol)

- **2009-2013**  
  External Examiner, MA Film Studies (University of Newcastle)

- **2006-2010**  
  External Examiner, BA Film Studies (University of Worcester)

- **April-June 2006**  
  Member of the external validation committee for the BA Film Studies, University of Worcester.

## POSTGRADUATE PERSONNEL


PhD ‘Accent, soundtrack and heteroglossia in the cinema of Tony Gatlif’, Tamsin Graves, 2010-present.


PhD (film practice), ‘The producer as creative force’, (LFS/Exeter studentship), Anna Sowa, September 2015- present

ADMINISTRATION

- Director of Graduate School, College of Humanities (September 2013-June 2015)
- ASA Member of Senate (September 2012- September 2014)
- Academic co-ordinator of Exeter/LFS PhD practice programme (2012-2014)
- Programme Director (Exeter), MA in International Film Business (MAIFB) (2012-present)
- Internationalization Officer, Department of Modern Languages (2012-2013)
- Head of Unit, Film Studies, Modern Languages (2007-10)
- Director of MA in Film Studies (2006-2010)
- Co-director of Centre for Research in Film Studies, University of Exeter (2005-09)
- Director of Undergraduate Programme, Film Studies (2004-07)
- Exams Officer, Film Studies (2003-05)
- Year Abroad, work placement co-ordinator (French Department) (2002-3)

Contribution to Strategic Initiatives within the University

- In 2008 I was responsible for co-authoring the AHRC BGP bid for MA and PhD studentships in Film and Television and was the author of the bid for Film and Digital Media (Film Practice). These bids generated a total of 8 PhD studentships and 4 MA studentships for the University of Exeter from the AHRC.

- As Director of the Graduate School (College of Humanities) I was part of the team within the College responsible for managing the implementation of the AHRC South West and Wales DTP. Duties included attending open days and management board meetings (to deputise for the College ADR) and organising the consortium’s first DTP training day on Gender and the Body: Transnational Perspectives.

- Since January 2011 I have been the lead Film Studies academic from the University of Exeter working in the collaborative partnership with the London Film School (LFS). I have been co-ordinating the PhD film practice programme with LFS that currently offers 2 PhD studentships each year. I have also been responsible for developing the MA Independent Film Business: a collaboration
between the College of Humanities, Exeter Business School and LFS. The MA began in 2014 with 29 students and has recruited the same number of students for 2015/16. The 2014/15 cohort consisted of 90% international students from China, Japan, Thailand, India, Nigeria, Brazil, USA and Canada.

### EXTERNAL RECOGNITION

**Papers given as guest lecture or invited speaker**

- ‘Merzak Allouache: dissident images, censorship and the artistic limits of political engagement in contemporary Algerian cinema.’ **Houston School of Film and Digital Media, Galway (NUI)**, 30 April, 2015.
- ‘Remembering (not) to forget Sétif: post-colonial memory in Rachid Bouchareb’s *Hors La Loi* (2010), **University of Leeds**’, April 2014.
- ‘Indignation in Fortress Europe: immigration and globalization in contemporary French film’, paper given as part of an international academic symposium funded by the Borchard Foundation at Chateau La Bretesche, Brittany, France, 3-6 June 2012.
- ‘The (Maghrebi-) French connection’: cinemas of the North African diaspora in France since 2000’, **A medium in transition?: changing contexts and cultures in cinema production and consumption**, international symposium to be hosted by Department of Theatre, Film and Television, University of York, 24-25th May 2011.
- ‘Le fabuleux destin des cinéastes maghrébins en France dans les années 2000’, **Cinémas du Maghreb colloquium held as part of the 23rd Carthage Film festival (JCC)**, Tunis (Tunisia), 27-29th October 2010.
- ‘Couscous and class struggle: reframing the North African diaspora in *La Graine et le mulet*, School of Modern Languages, University of Bristol, February 2010.

**Conference Organization:**

- July 2007: Co-organiser of an international conference entitled ‘Re-presenting Diasporas in cinema and new (digital) media’ at the University of Exeter, supported by the British Academy, Migrations Research Network (Exeter University) and Information Society Network (Exeter University).

### EXTERNAL PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2006-present member of editorial board of *Studies in French Cinema*
- Manuscript Reviewer for Manchester University Press (2005-present)
- Peer Reviewer for AHRC (2007-present).
- Reviewer for *Screen* and *Modern & Contemporary France*.