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# Literature Through Film: Realism, Magic, and the Art of Adaptation

Robert Stam

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## Literature through Film

Realism, Magic, and the Art of Adaptation

"Robert Stam helps us better understand two of the most important art forms of our time - film and the novel.

A major contribution."

Michael Holquist, Yale University



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This lively and accessible textbook, written by an expert in film studies, provides a fascinating introduction to the process and art of literature-to-film adaptations. Provides a lively, rigorous, and clearly written account of key moments in the history of the novel from Don Quixote and Robinson Crusoe up to Lolita and One Hundred Years of Solitude. Includes diversity of topics and titles, such as Fielding, Nabokov, and Cervantes in adaptations by Welles, Kubrick, and the French New Wave. Emphasizes both the literary texts themselves and their varied transtextual film adaptations. Examines numerous literary trends from the self-conscious novel to magic realism before exploring the cinematic impact of the movement. Reinvigorates the field of adaptation studies by examining it through the grid of contemporary theory. Brings novels and film adaptations into the age of multiculturalism, postcoloniality, and the Internet by reflecting on their contemporary relevance.

Robert Stam helps us better understand two of the most important art forms of our time: film and the novel. In so doing, he brings to light new sources for the distinctiveness of each. The general method guiding his particular analyses of movement from one medium to the other is itself a major contribution to translation theory. Michael Holquist, Yale University

From the Back Cover: Written by a leading figure in film and literary studies, this accessible textbook offers a first-rate analysis of the process and the art of literature-to-film adaptations. Provides a lively, rigorous, and clearly written account of key moments in the history of the novel from Don Quixote and Robinson Crusoe up to Lolita and One Hundred Years of Solitude. Emphasizes both the literary texts themselves and their varied transtextual film adaptations. Examines numerous literary trends from the self-conscious novel to magic realism before exploring the cinematic impact of the movement. Reinvigorates the field of adaptation studies by examining it through the grid of contemporary theory. Brings novels and film adaptations into the age of multiculturalism, postcoloniality, and the Internet by reflecting on their contemporary relevance.

About the Author: Robert Stam is University Professor at New York University. His many books include *Film Theory: An Introduction* (Blackwell, 2000), *Unthinking Eurocentrism: Multiculturalism and the Media* (with Ella Shohat, 1994), and *Subversive Pleasures: Bakhtin, Cultural Criticism and Film* (1989). With Toby Miller, he is the editor of *Film and Theory* (Blackwell, 2000) and *The Blackwell Companion to Film Theory* (2000).