

Film/Jewish Studies | Jewish Films and Filmmakers: Ernst Lubitsch, Billy Wilder, Nora Ephron

Week Two: July 14 – 20, 2024

Faculty: Elliot Shapiro, Senior Lecturer and Knight Foundation Director of the Writing in the Majors, Knight Institute for Writing in the Disciplines and Jewish Studies

Location: Lincoln Hall, Room 107

Required Films:

Ninotchka (1939). Directed by Ernst Lubitsch. Written by Billy Wilder, Charles Brackett, Walter Reisch. Produced by Ernst Lubitsch and Sidney Franklin.

To Be or Not to Be (1942). Directed by Ernst Lubitsch. Written by Edwin Justus Mayer (with uncredited contributions by Lubitsch). Produced by Ernst Lubitsch.

The Apartment (1960). Directed by Billy Wilder. Written by Billy Wilder and I. A. L. Diamond. Produced by Billy Wilder.

When Harry Met Sally (1989). Directed by Rob Reiner. Written by Nora Ephron. Produced by Rob Reiner and Andrew Scheinman.

Julie and Julia. (2009). Directed by Nora Ephron. Written by Nora Ephron. Produced by Nora Ephron, Laurence Mark, Eric Steel, Amy Robinson.

Recommended Reading:

Ephron, Nora. *Heartburn*. (originally published 1983. Recent edition: Vintage 2011).
THURSDAY MORNING

Ephron, Nora. *The Most of Nora Ephron*. Penguin Books, 2022.

The most of Nora Ephron is an anthology. You might enjoy any or all of it. The pieces that are most relevant to our class are listed below. (Page numbers are to the 2022 edition.)

If you end up with another edition, the titles should allow you to navigate to the appropriate pieces). The list also includes the days when we will discuss particular in class.

THURSDAY MORNING

“Journalism: A Love Story” (pub. 2010): 5-18.

• “The Screenwriter” (pub. 1990): 184-205.

Includes opening scenes from script of *When Harry Met Sally* and afterword included with the published script.

“The Story of My Life in 3,500 Words or Less” (pub. 2006): 312-323.

FRIDAY MORNING

“Commencement Address to Wellesley Class of 1996”: 76-84.

“Serial Monogamy: A Memoir” (pub. 2006): 208-219.

“The Food Establishment: Life in the Land of the Rising Soufflé (Or is it the Rising Meringue)” (pub. 1968): 240-258.

Optional Reading (if you really want to go deeper):

The script of *Julie and Julia* is based on two memoirs: one written by each of the title characters. Information about more recent editions is below. (If you choose to read these, any edition is fine).

Child, Julia with Alex Prud' homme. *My Life in France*. Anchor Books, 2006.

Powell, Julie. *Julie and Julia: My Year of Cooking Dangerously*. Back Bay Books, 2016.