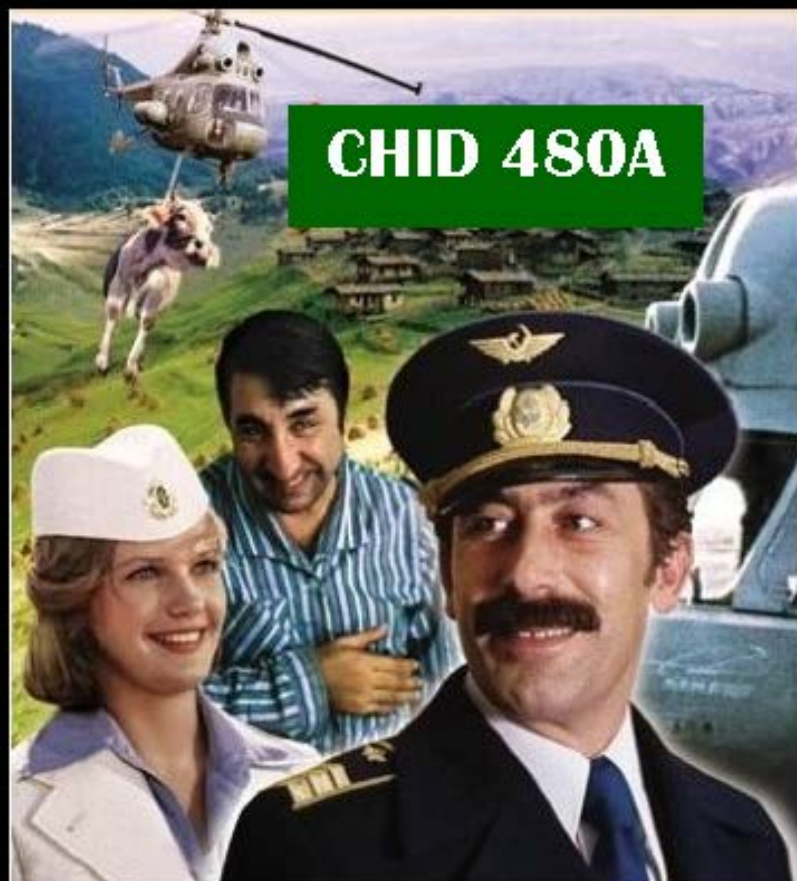


Georgian Cinema: Always on my my my my.... mind

In this class we will explore the cinema of Georgia, the country ~ a magical, yet mysterious and complex land. Situated at the crossroads of East and West, Georgia and its cinema provide a study in contrasts: film directors who belong to large family clans, reflecting a traditional society, yet who also embrace innovative, western looking trends; directors who chafe at Stalin as a fellow Georgian, and rebel against the Soviet machine, creating an avant-garde, if suppressed, cinema within the Soviet Union.



Beginning with a brief history of the country itself, we will explore what the concept of a “national cinema” might mean in Georgia, calling on Deleuze and Guattari’s work “Towards a Minor Literature” and Deleuze’s work on cinema and national identity. Along the way, we will study various strands that make up the cloth of Georgian cinema – the filmic medium as political tool, aesthetic endeavor, lyrical expression – and explore how these various strands intertwine in a fascinating, yet little known cinema.