

THE GOOD MOVIE CLUB:
A CINEMA PROGRAM
DESIGNED TO ENHANCE LEARNING AND ADVANCE TEACHING

Good movies, like good books, teach us something worth remembering. It may originate in a complex plot, or a well drawn character, or a sequence of stunning and startling images projected indelibly on the screen. No matter where it may emanate from, good movies, again like good books, offer us truths about our pasts, our futures and ourselves which we as educators can incorporate into the way we think about our students and approach the challenge of educating them.

Through the auspices of this program you will be given the opportunity to not only view good movies but to contemplate how they might serve the goals and objectives you have established for students in your classroom. It will be up to you to decide how and why a particular movie might advance your professional interests in the classroom. The movies you choose for consideration were not created to serve the needs of teachers working with students. It will be up to you to make the creative application from movie theater to school classroom. That should not prove hard for you to do. Making creative applications to the classroom from the larger world outside is what good teachers do all the time.

All the movies chosen for the movie lists found below are readily available on dvd for purchase from retail outlets or rental from various online services. Your challenge will not come from gaining access to a particular dvd but from deciding before or after viewing whether a particular dvd is suitable for use in this program. Since you will be asked to answer specific questions [explained in detail below] about the movies you have selected in order to complete the work required from you in this program, it might be a good idea to rent or borrow rather than purchase any dvds you select for consideration. That way you minimize your costs or expenditures in the event a particular movie selected by you for consideration proves to be a poor fit for the purposes and parameters of this program.

Before selecting a specific movie for viewing from the list below, it might be a good to answer a few preliminary questions that I have provided for your consideration. Answering these questions will help you make movie selections which best fit your particular professional needs and classroom situation.

1. Does the movie under consideration deal with plots, themes or characters which might have relevance for your work in education ?
2. How did you come to consider the movie? Did you read about it? Have it recommended to you ? Learn about it from some other source?

3. Do you think that the movie has enough preliminary promise to warrant your investing time in viewing it?
4. Is there a sufficient basis to believe, based on what you know about the movie, that you will be able to make a creative application of the movie's content to the particulars of your students and classroom ?
5. Can you think of other movies that you have watched over the years which could have been used to answer the questions posed in this program [if you scroll down several pages you will find those questions listed under the heading THREE STANDARD QUESTIONS].

There are three movie lists for you to choose from. The first is titled A SELECTED LIST OF MOVIES YOU MUST SEE BEFORE YOU DIE and is an amalgam of movie titles found on either TIME MAGAZINE'S ALL TIME 100 MOVIES or NET FLIX'S 1001 MOVIES YOU MUST SEE BEFORE YOU DIE. The second is titled CLASSIC MOVIES FOR THE AGES and was assembled by my oldest daughter, Lauren Wissot, a film critic in New York City for several online media services. The third is titled THE BEST EDUCATION MOVIES EVER MADE and was created by my youngest daughter, Jordana Wissot, a special education teacher at the United Nations International School in New York City who has extensively employed film in her classroom for the past ten years. Look the lists over carefully. Make your selections. And most important of all: enjoy the experience.

A SELECTED LIST OF MOVIES YOU MUST SEE BEFORE YOU DIE

1. The Birth of a Nation [1915]
2. The Battleship Potemkin [1925]
3. Metropolis [1927]
4. The Blue Angel [1930]
5. All Quiet on the Western Front [1930]
6. City Lights [1931]
7. Modern Times [1936]
8. Swing Time [1936]
9. Dodsworth [1936]
10. Grand Illusion [1937]
11. The Wizard of Oz [1939]
12. Gone With the Wind [1939]
13. The Grapes of Wrath [1940]
14. Citizen Kane [1941]
15. Sergeant York [1941]
16. Great Expectations [1946]
17. Monsieur Verdoux [1947]

18. The Bicycle Thief [1948]
19. The Red Shoes [1948]
20. Rashomon [1950]
21. Los Olvidados [1950]
22. A Streetcar Named Desire [1951]
23. On The Waterfront [1954]
24. Animal Farm [1954]
25. The Seven Samurai [1954]
26. Wild Strawberries [1957]
27. Paths of Glory [1957]
28. The 400 Blows [1959]
29. Lawrence of Arabia [1962]
30. To Kill a Mockingbird [1962]
31. 8 1/2 [1963]
32. Doctor Zhivago [1965]
33. The Battle of Algiers [1965]
34. 2001: A Space Odyssey [1968]
35. Satyricon [1969]
36. Easy Rider [1969]
37. Cries and Whispers [1972]
38. Amarcord [1973]
39. 1900 [1976]
40. Star Wars [1977]
41. The Deer Hunter [1978]
42. The Tin Drum [1979]
43. Apocalypse Now [1979]
44. The Last Metro [1980]
45. Gallipoli [1981]
46. Reds [1981]
47. Blade Runner [1982]
48. Gandhi [1982]
49. Fanny and Alexander [1982]
50. Amadeus [1984]
51. The Killing Fields [1984]
52. The Breakfast Club [1985]
53. Brazil [1985]
54. Ferris Bueller's Day Off [1986]
55. Platoon [1986]
56. Wings of Desire [1987]
57. Babette's Feast [1987]
58. Full Metal Jacket [1987]
59. Cinema Paradiso [1988]
60. My Left Foot [1989]
61. Do the Right Thing [1989]

62. Glory [1989]
63. Europa Europa [1990]
64. Boyz 'n the Hood [1991]
65. Raise the Red Lantern [1991]
66. Glengarry Glen Ross [1992]
67. Farewell My Concubine [1993]
68. Schindler's List [1993]
69. Hoop Dreams [1994]
70. The White Balloon [1995]
71. Breaking the Waves [1996]
72. Lone Star [1996]
73. The Thin Red Line [1998]
74. All About My Mother [1999]
75. Three Kings [1999]
76. Amores Perros [2000]
77. Kandahar [2001]
78. Monsoon Wedding [2001]
79. City of God [2002]
80. Talk to Her [2002]

CLASSIC MOVIES FOR THE AGES

1. Belle De Jour [Luis Bunuel]
2. La Dolce Vita [Federico Fellini]
3. Cabaret [Bob Fosse]
4. Vertigo [Alfred Hitchcock]
5. A Clockwork Orange [Stanley Kubrick]
6. Lawrence of Arabia [David Lean]
7. Days of Heaven [Terence Malick]
8. Cul De Sac [Roman Polanski]
9. Russian and Ludmila [Aleksandr Ptushko]
10. 2046 [Wong Kar Wai]

THE BEST EDUCATION MOVIES EVER MADE

1. The Class* [2008]
2. Chalk [2007]
3. The Great Debaters [2007]
4. The Hobart Shakespeareans [2005]
5. Mad Hot Ballroom [2005]
6. Elephant [2003]
7. Spellbound [2002]

8. To Be and To Have* [2002]
9. The First Year [2001]
10. Searching for Bobby Fischer [1993]
11. Dead Poet's Society [1989]
12. Teachers [1984]

*Denotes French film.

PROCEDURES FOR PETITIONING FOR A MOVIE SELECTION NOT FOUND ON ANY OF THE THREE ABOVE LISTS

If there is a movie title that you would like to use that is not found on any of the three above lists, please contact me, Jay Wissot, by either phone [303-819-8012] or e-mail [jayhwissot@mac.com]. In general, if a petitioned movie has some substantive merits that do relate to education, I will in all likelihood approve it. I am only likely to decline the use of a movie whose only value is entertainment.

PROCEDURES FOR SUBMITTING REQUIRED WORK ASSIGNMENTS

1. It is possible to earn up to FIVE hours of graduate level credit by viewing movies and writing a response to THREE STANDARD QUESTIONS [listed below] for each movie viewed. In order to earn two hours of graduate level credit you would have to view two movies and submit your response to the three standard questions for EACH movie. In order to earn three hours of graduate level credit you would have to view three movies and submit your response to the three standard questions for EACH movie.

THREE STANDARD QUESTIONS

Please answer the three standard questions as fully as possible. Your response to each question should be approximately one typed page in length.

- A. What themes or points of view were raised or brought out in the movie which would be of value or use to you in your work as an educator ?
- B. What happens in the movie either good or bad to one or more of the characters that would provide teachable moments for you and perhaps life lessons for your students ?
- C. What questions in the movie were left unanswered ? What issues were left unresolved? What needs did you have which the movie failed to satisfy?

PROCEDURES FOR COMPLETING REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT PROCESS

Once you have completed your required work assignments, please do the following:

1. Go to the CCS website, www.aboutteachers.com, and navigate to the Brandman University page.
 - A. If you are taking just one 2 credit class, select any class title from the list of two semester hour courses. Click on the class title you have selected to obtain a class registration form to download and print. Complete the registration form for that class.
 - B. If you are taking just one 3 credit class, select any class title from the list of three semester hour courses. Click on the class title you have selected to obtain a class registration form to download and print. Complete the registration form for that class.
 - C. If you are taking both a 2 credit and a 3 credit class (for a total of 5 credits), select a 2 semester hour class title and a 3 semester hour class title. Click on each of the class titles you have selected to obtain registration forms for each class. Complete both registration forms.

Fax registration forms to 13038456989. **Please remember that class titles can be taken ONLY ONCE and that a maximum of FIVE semester hours of graduate level credit can be earned in the program.**

2. Next, navigate to the PAYMENT FORM page of the CCS website and download, print out, and complete the payment form for Brandman courses. If paying by personal check, please make checks payable to Colorado Consulting Services. Mail form(s) and check to Jay Wissot, 5230 E. Dakota Ave., Denver CO 80246. If paying by credit card, fill out the credit card coupon portion of the payment form and fax the payment form to 13038456989.
3. Mail or fax your completed work assignments.

Questions ??? - Please contact Jay Wissot 303-819-8012 or jayhwissot@mac.com