

Comparative Study

Video essay comparing elements in two films (External Assessment 30%)

- 1) Choose a film focus (film genre, film era/movement, film theory).
 - 2) Within the film focus, choose two films from two different countries OR two different time periods that will allow you to make interesting comparisons.
 - 3) Research and analyze the similarities and differences between the films.
 - a) include elements of the films' cultural context (economic, political, historical...)
 - 4) Come up with a clearly defined topic for your comparative study.
 - a) topic should link the selected films to each other & the identified area of film focus
 - b) essentially think of it as a research question
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- 5) Present your analysis in a recorded multimedia comparative study.
 - a) 10 minute max. length
 - b) should be balanced between visual and narrated elements
 - c) **use your film language**
 - d) make clear reference to sources as on-screen citations
 - e) and include a Works Cited

Teacher can give feedback on this only ONCE.

Due in December

IB Film Assessment Cheat Sheet

Comparative Study
Video essay comparing elements in two films
(External Assessment 30%)

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- 3) Research and analyze the similarities and differences between the films.
 - a) **include** elements of the

Textual Analysis
Analytical research paper examining a selected scene.
(External Assessment 30%)

- 1) Choose from one of three films, watch the film & choose a scene to analyze (up to 5 min).
- 2) Analyze and research:
 - a) how meaning is conveyed through the use of film elements
 - b) **the** film's cultural context
- 3) In an essay, explain how the film elements relate to the

Film Commentary
Commentary/analysis from three perspectives
(Internal Assessment 10%)

- 1) Work in the production roles of cinematographer, sound, screenwriter, editor, producer, director, actor/actress, costume designer, production designer, visual effects supervisor, and music supervisor.
 - a) Research roles and understand each contribution to filmmaking
 - b) Understand practices and techniques required to role

Area of film focus	Film 1	Film 2	Possible topic for comparative study
Film movement: German expressionism	<i>The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari</i> (1920)	<i>Edward Scissorhands</i> (1990)	How and with what effect are specific film elements of German expressionism used within a chosen contemporary film?
Film movement: French New Wave	<i>Breathless</i> (1960)	<i>Badlands</i> (1973)	The influence of the French New Wave on New Hollywood's use of innovative film elements in its representation of youth and violence.
Film genre and film style: Black comedy	<i>No. 3</i> (1997)	<i>The Big Lebowski</i> (1998)	To what extent do "black comedy" films differ according to cultural context?
Film theory: Soviet montage	<i>Battleship Potemkin</i> (1925)	<i>Koyaanisqatsi</i> (1982)	To what extent are specific features of Soviet montage theory faithfully employed in a contemporary experimental film?

Your Job (Part I)

1. Choose a specific area of film focus

Film Genre or Film Theory (*or film movement**)

Due date: 11/21

2. Choose one film that is related to the film focus

Think: have you seen a non-English language film recently?
One that you enjoyed/appreciated? If so, this would be a great film to select.

3. Choose a second film, from a contrasting culture that is also related to the film focus.

Think: different country/language, or you may choose a contrasting time period (more than 40 years apart)

Example...

My film focus is:

Film Genre – Coming of Age Films

My Films:

Rebel without a Cause
(USA, 1955)

Me and Earl and the Dying Girl (USA, 2015)

This is due Thursday (11/21), before class begins. Indicate choices here.

Your Job (Part II)

4. Create a topic that can compare the two films in relation to the area of film focus and/or film themes.

→ This is essentially a research question...

And know that after you watch/re-watch your films, you may want to alter your research question – this is totally acceptable

This is due before class begins next Monday (11/25).

Indicate your topic here.

Due date: 11/25

Example...

My film focus is:

Film Genre – Science
Fiction Films

My Films:

2001: A Space Odyssey
(USA, 1968) &
Interstellar (USA, 2014)

My Topic: How do the elements of science fiction within a movie represent the ideals and cultural events happening at the time?

Your Job (Part III)

5. Watch (or re-watch) your two main films

This is due by December 2 (the Monday after Thanksgiving). Indicate the you have done this here.

Due date: 12/2

Example...

My film focus is:
Film Movement -
Italian Neorealism

My Films:
Bicycle Thieves (Italy,
1948) &
Nebraska (USA, 2013)

My Topic: How are
elements of Italian
Neorealism
represented in
modern films?

More specifically:
I will look at these two
components of Italian
Neorealism: *stories of
ordinary people and
chance encounters*
By examining: *mise en
scene, framing &
composition, and setting.*

- Look here for more info on the Comparative Study:
 - Condensed
 - Full Write-Up
- **And be ready to work in class** in December. We will dedicate a good deal of class time to this assignment so it can be completed mostly in class.
- *ps- if you are not testing in IB Film, you will complete the assignment with some alterations. Mainly, you will have some options for the end product.*