

# Film Criticism Exercise

## Prepared by Shiv Ganesh, University of Montana

### **Objective:**

To conduct an analysis of organizational culture via film criticism.

### **General Instructions:**

You are to write an essay based on a film you view from the list below. As a product, your essay must be a unified, coherent piece of work with a distinct, comprehensive introduction, body and conclusion. You may organize the internal structure of your essay in any manner you wish, as long as you address assignment questions in sufficient detail. Focus especially on questions 3 and 4.

### **Questions:**

1. Provide a brief synopsis of the movie.
2. Discuss some of the aesthetic choices made by the director and evaluate them. In other words, how do choices pertaining to screenplay, cinematography, acting and other aspects of the art of filmmaking affect what is being said? (The medium is, after all, the message- remember?)
3. Describe in detail the organizational culture(s) represented in the film using the six communicative aspects of culture discussed in class and summarized in your handout.
4. Use this description to analyze any one of the following organizational processes: socialization, technology, globalization, publicity, productivity, or rationality/decision-making.

### **Evaluation:**

The assignment is worth 50 points. Essays will be evaluated on:

1. coherence and structure: 8 points
2. grammar: 8 points
3. explanation/analysis: 12 points
4. argumentation/evidence: 12 points
5. completeness: 10 points

### **Other instructions:**

1. An acceptable minimum number of pages is five, in 12-font Times New Roman.
2. On \_\_\_\_\_, arrive in class with a letter addressed to me stating the date on which you will be submitting the essay. You have until the end of the semester to complete the essay. **If you plan to submit the essay to me after \_\_\_\_\_, make arrangements for submission on an individual basis.**
3. If you would like to watch a movie that is not on the list below, you have to check with me first.

### **Films:**

- |                          |                           |                            |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Metropolis            | 11. Fargo                 | 21. Titanic (just kidding) |
| 2. Rosie the Riveter     | 12. The Crucible          | 22. Jerry Maguire          |
| 3. 2001: A Space Odyssey | 13. Il Postino            | 23. Boys Don't Cry         |
| 4. Modern Times          | 14. Apollo 13             | 24. American History X     |
| 5. Roger and Me          | 15. Philadelphia          | 25. Primary Colors         |
| 6. Smoke Signals         | 16. A Few Good Men        | 26. Pleasantville          |
| 7. Glengarry Glen Ross   | 17. Salt of the Earth     | 27. Saving Private Ryan    |
| 8. Cosi                  | 18. A League of Their Own | 28. Good Will Hunting      |
| 9. The Full Monty        | 19. The Commitments       | 29. L.A. Confidential      |
| 10. Secrets and Lies     | 20. Godfather             | 30. Bhaji on the Beach     |