

IB American Studies Film Analysis Presentations

10-12-minute presentation on the film and its IMPACT on American culture.

This is a synthesis project, which means that in order to be successful, you will need to draw on the knowledge and skills we have been building throughout the year, in both Literature & History.

You are responsible for **teaching the class about your film**. You must address the major questions outlines, but the organization of your presentation is up to you. Get creative and **ENGAGE YOUR AUDIENCE!**

Your presentation must address the following questions:

1. What are the major themes of this film?
 - a. Just like literature, these films do not exist in a vacuum; think about the influence (both directly and indirectly) that history has had on this film... what social movements have impacted the story the director is trying to tell?
2. What commentary is this film making about American society? How do you know?
3. How does the film achieve its purpose/message through the choices the director makes? (Author's craft... ideas & techniques => Purpose/Effect/Theme)
4. Does this film still have relevance today? Why?

You must also use 2-3 short clips of the film (must be class appropriate) throughout the presentation as evidence to prove your analysis.

Elements of Literary Analysis: What techniques are being used by the director to convey major themes? What motifs do you notice? Symbols? Characterization? Mood? Juxtaposition? The list of potential techniques is endless... but be sure to take into consideration the effect on the viewer.

When watching film... (See the PowerPoint on the website for Film Analysis 101)

- What is the message of the film?
- How does the director achieve this? Consider:
 - Plot
 - Characters/Characterization
 - Setting
 - Costumes
 - Soundtrack
 - Visual Effects
 - Perspective & Viewpoints (who is our narrator? Do we trust his/her? How do film techniques, like camera angles, etc., contribute to this?)
 - Editing: perspective cuts, distance, pacing, etc.