

CP 460 Summer 2013  
History of American Cinema

Short Essay Assignment

Once during the summer session you must watch a film of your own choosing and write a short paper (Undergraduate: 1000-1500 words/Graduate: 1500-3000 words.) Do NOT waste time with unnecessary plot summary, please assume I have seen the movie. Your essays should historically situate and analyze the film you chose in relation class discussions and readings. What is significant about this film/filmmaker? What role if any does the film/filmmaker play in film history?

Do not forget the title (short essay does not count), it is the first item that attracts your reader. Your essay should be well constructed and clearly delineated. You should have a well defined argument with supporting documentation (i.e. specific examples from the film to make your point.)

(You cannot use the same time period, genre, or director that you are using for your final project.) The due dates for this assignment will fluctuate depending on your discussion group assignments, please pay close attention to the calendar.