***ComS 192 Research Paper:***

* The purpose of this assignment is to give you the opportunity to write a substantial analysis of a film.
* Select a feature from the class schedule or choose one of the following:
* 12 Angry Men
* The Killing of a Chinese Bookie
* Serpico
* Shaft
* Foxy Brown
* Anatomy of a Murder
* Down by Law
* Do the Right Thing
* The Last Seduction
* Pulp Fiction
* No Country for Old Men

***Historical context:***

1. Place the film in historical context: What significant historical/cultural events were taking place at the time the film?   
   *2-3 examples*
2. 2-3 examples of how the film responds to its historical context through the following

* story (all aspects)
* symbolism
* character
* cinematography
* mise en scène
* use of sound
* use of editing

***Critical/Academic reception: 2-5 references***

* Read fairly widely the film’s contemporary movie reviews and determine how it was received during its release and follow up on what its reputation has been in the years since.
* What is your understanding of how the film was received versus how it is remembered now?
* What has changed culturally since the film was made?
* References needed to back up assertions

***Analysis***

* *Further analyze how cultural/historical issues are addressed throughout the film.*
* *Do its arguments coincide with the time it was made? Do its arguments hold up today?*

***Conclusion***

* Save opinions for the conclusion. All opinions should be written in objective voice and should be an interpretation of your research findings
* Layout: DIN A4, print on one side of the paper only, right margin: 3 cm, left margin: 4cm, top and bottom margins: 2,5 cm
* Text: use Times New Roman font, type size 12pt, 1.5 line spacing, justification, mark each paragraph – except those following immediately after a headline or sub-headline –by indentation of the first line (one tab stop)
* Quotations: Short quotations (up to three lines) are incorporated into the main text “between double quotes” (double quotes within the quotations become single ‘inverted commas’). Longer quotations are set off in one block, without quotation marks, left indent by 1.25 cm, single-spaced, type size 11pt, blank line before and after
* Footnotes: same font type; 10pt, single spacing, justification, no indentations, end each footnote with a full stop
* Bibliography: use Times New Roman font, type size 12pt; single spacing; hanging indent by 1.25 cm
* Headings: use same font and same font size, no colors, Arabic numbers only; capitalize all words except function words (such as and, or, the, a, …)
* Pagination: same font; same font size; starts with the title page but is not made visible as a page number until the first page of the text
* MLA Citations: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/2/>
* APA (American Psychological Association) is used by Education, Psychology, and Sciences.

Undergrad: 8-12 pages

Grad: 12-20 pages

Outline Due Midterm:

Historical Context:

Name 2-3 relevant historical events that happened at the time of the film

1.

2.

3.

Why are they relevant to your reading of the film? (describe 2-3 examples from the content of the film)

1.

2.

3.

List your research references:

1.

2.

3.

List 2-3 references of critical reviews contemporary to the film

1.

2.

3.

Give a brief description of how you think the film was received at the time

Give two to three examples of contemporary writing about the film:

1.

2.

3.

How as reception of the film changed? (brief)

Briefly describe your position—the thesis of your paper…

* *Further analyze how cultural/historical issues are addressed throughout the film.*
* *Do its arguments coincide with the time it was made? Do its arguments hold up today?*