

The MSR Film List

last revised: August 2010

The following films are recommended not because they are necessarily great or even good (some of them are truly terrible), but because they are, for the most part, easy to find and very effective for testing principles introduced in MSR

Important:

Underlined films will be used as examples in class.

Do NOT use them in your own papers.

Assignments and categories will be discussed in class

Category I	Category II	Category III
APOCALYPSE NOW	A BEAUTIFUL MIND	ALTERED OCEANS (available from latimes.com and on DVD)
ARAB AND JEW: WOUNDED SPIRITS IN A PROMISED LAND (in English, Hebrew and Arabic)	AFTER THE WEDDING (in Danish and some English, with subtitles)	ANDROMEDA STRAIN
AVATAR	AMERICAN BEAUTY	ALIEN (entire series)
BAMBOOZLED	ARAB LABOR (Arab-Israeli sitcom. All episodes in Arabic and Hebrew, and both languages mixed together, with subtitles)	THE ARRIVAL
BATMAN (1 st film)	BABEL	ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI)
BATMAN BEGINS	THE BAND'S VISIT (in Arabic, Hebrew and English)	BACK TO THE FUTURE (all three)
BERKELEY IN THE 60S	BEAUTIFUL BOXER (in Thai, with English subtitles)	BATTLESTAR GALACTICA (the 'reimagined' series)
BILIN MY LOVE (in Arabic, Hebrew and English, with subtitles)	BEE SEASON	BLADE RUNNER
BOWLING FOR COLUMBINE	BEING JOHN MALKOVITCH	THE BUSINESS OF PARADIGMS
THE BOYS FROM BRAZIL	BEYOND BORDERS	CHILDREN OF MEN
BREAKFAST ON PLUTO	BORAT	CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND
CAPRICA (series)	BOYS DON'T CRY	CONTACT
CLOCKWORK ORANGE	BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN	CREATION (2010 film on Darwin's life)
CABARET	THE CHINA SYNDROME	THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW
CUP FINAL (in Hebrew, Arabic and English)	THE CLIENT	

THE DARK KNIGHT	THE CONSTANT GARDENER	DEEP IMPACT
DIVINE INTERVENTION (Palestinian /Israeli film in Arabic and Hebrew, with English subtitles)	DEAD AGAIN	DER GOLEM (silent film, Germany)
DO THE RIGHT THING	THE DEER HUNTER	DIRT! THE MOVIE
DR. STRANGELOVE (along with FAIL-SAFE. Watch FAIL-SAFE first)	DELIVERANCE	DUNE (either attempt)
EQUILIBRIUM	THE DERVISHES OF KURDISTAN	EAGLE EYE
EXODUS	DIVA (in French, with English subtitles)	THE 11 TH HOUR
FAHRENHEIT 9/11	DIVINE HORSEMEN	THE EMERALD FOREST
FAIL-SAFE (along with DR. STRANGELOVE Watch FAIL-SAFE first)	THE DOORS	E.T.
FIDDLER ON THE ROOF	DYBBUK OF THE HOLY APPLE FIELD (in Hebrew with English subtitles)	ETERNAL SUNSHINE OF THE SPOTLESS MIND
<u>FIGHT CLUB</u>	EDWARD SCISSORHANDS	EUREKA (series)
FORGIVEN (Israeli-Palestinian collaboration in Hebrew, Arabic and English, with subtitles)	ELECTRA (in Greek, with English subtitles)	EVOLUTION
GATTACA	ETHNIC NOTIONS (along with Little Shop of Horrors)	EXISTENZ
THE GURU	<u>FARGO</u>	FAST FOOD NATION
HAIR (film only—not music alone or the theatre production)	THE FEARLESS VAMPIRE KILLERS	FOOD, INC.
A HANDMAID'S TALE	FICTITIOUS MARRIAGE (in Hebrew, Arabic, and both mixed together, with some English thrown in, with English subtitles)	FRANKENSTEIN (any version)
HOLY GHOST PEOPLE	FIELD OF DREAMS	GHOST
IDIOCRACY	THE FIFTH ELEMENT	G.I. JANE
JERUSALEM IS PROUD TO PRESENT (in English and Hebrew, with English subtitles)	FIRST WIVES CLUB	GODDESS OF THE EARTH (documentary on the science of James Lovelock)
	THE GIFT	I LOVE YOU, ROSA (in Hebrew, with English subtitles)
	THE GODFATHER (1 st film only)	THE ILLUSIONIST (with commentary on the historical context of illusions at the time)
	THE GOOD GIRL	
	GOODNIGHT AND GOOD LUCK	

JESUS CAMP (do not combine with SAVED)	<u>GOOD WILL HUNTING</u>	AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH
JONESTOWN: THE LIFE AND DEATH OF THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE (do <u>not</u> use this film if you are reading Seductive Poison)	THE GRADUATE	INDEPENDENCE DAY
LORD OF THE FLIES (<u>original</u> film only, not the remake)	GRASS (silent 1924 documentary on the Bakhtiari migration by the makers of the original King Kong)	INHERIT THE WIND
LORD OF WAR	HAFAROUINE (in Tunisian dialect of Arabic, with English or French subtitles)	IN THE SHADOW OF THE MOON
LUBOVITCH	HIGH ART	JACOB'S LADDER
LES MAÎTRES FOUS (available in English or French with French written introduction)	HARD CANDY	JAWS
MALCOLM X	INSIDE MAN	JURASSIC PARK (first or both)
<u>MATRIX</u> (first one or two films. First film is probably enough)	JUNO	MARS ATTACK
THE MESSAGE (film on the life of the Prophet Muhammad, <u>not</u> the film THE MESSENGER on Joan of Arc) Two versions: English & Arabic	KHAMSA (in French with some Roma and Arabic, with English subtitles)	MEN IN BLACK (first film only)
MILK	THE KIDS ARE ALRIGHT	MEN WHO STARE AT GOATS (including featurette on the New Earth Army, aka First Earth Battalion)
THE MISSION	THE KITE RUNNER	MESMER
MOSQUITO COAST	KYPSELI (in Greek, with English voiceover)	MINORITY REPORT
NETWORK	LARS AND THE REAL GIRL	NUMB3RS (series episode #23: "Bones of Contention")
THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS	LATCHO DROM (in Rom, with French and/or English subtitles)	OCTOBER SKY
OFF THE MAP	LATE MARRIAGE (in Georgian and Hebrew, and both mixed together, with subtitles. Note that the subtitles don't distinguish the languages, so listen for the transitions)	PLANET OF THE APES (<u>original</u> 1 st film is probably enough—or all of them. Do not use the remake)
PAN'S LABYRINTH (in Spanish with English subtitles)	LAUREL CANYON	PLEASANTVILLE
	LEAP OF FAITH	THE RIGHT STUFF
	LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE	THE SECRETS (HA-SODOT) (in Hebrew, French and English—with subtitles)
	LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS (along with ETHNIC NOTIONS)	SHADOW OF THE VAMPIRE
		STRANGE DAYS

PARADISE NOW (mostly in Arabic with English subtitles)	LONE STAR	12 MONKEYS
PERSEPOLIS (in French with English subtitles)	LOVE ACTUALLY	TWILIGHT (first film only)
POMO SHAMAN (Essie Parish in Pomo, with some English voiceover)	THE LOVE LETTER	2001 SPACE ODYSSEY
THE POSTMAN (<u>not</u> IL POSTINO)	A MIGHTY HEART	2001: HAL'S LEGACY— ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN THE YEAR 2001 (PBS/KQED, 2001)
PEPE LE MOKO (in French with some Arabic. Filmed in 1936 Algiers. View the Criterion Collection DVD which includes some commentaries on French colonial Algeria)	MERMAIDS	TERMINATOR (first film only, or all of them)
THE RED VIOLIN (in English, Italian, French and Chinese with subtitles)	MIRIAM'S DAUGHTERS NOW	WE LIVE IN PUBLIC
RIZE	MONSIEUR IBRAHIM (in French with English subtitles)	WHO KILLED THE ELECTRIC CAR?
THE SECRETS [HA-SODOT] (in Hebrew, French and English, with English subtitles—do not use for both Categories 1 and 3)	THE NAMESAKE (in English, Hindi, Bengali and French, with subtitles)	THE X FILES: FIGHT THE FUTURE (The 1 st X Files film only—not the TV series)
SICKO	NOTES ON A SCANDAL	X-MEN (first film or all of them)
THE SIEGE	OUTBREAK	YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN
SILKWOOD	THE PAPER CHASE	
SOPHIE'S CHOICE	PEOPLE OF THE WIND (or GRASS or THE BAKHTIARI) (all three films are in Persian, with English voiceover or captions)	
SOUTH PARK'S PASSION OF THE JEW	SAVED (do not combine with JESUS CAMP)	
SOYLENT GREEN	THE SERPENT AND THE RAINBOW	
STAR WARS (Episode IV or <u>all</u>)	SE7EN	
TANK GIRL	THE SKULLS	
TESTAMENT	SMOKE SIGNALS	
	THE SQUID AND THE WHALE	
	STIGMATA	
	STRANGER THAN FICTION	
	SWEENEY TODD	
	SYRIANA	
	TAKING SIDES (Hungarian film, in English, with mostly German cast)	<u>Note:</u> If you need a copy of this document in a different

		format, please contact me.
TREME (series)	TAXI DRIVER	
12 MONKEYS (do not use for both Categories 1 and 3)	TEOREMA (in Italian, with English subtitles)	
28 DAYS LATER	THELMA AND LOUISE	
UNITED 93	THREE KINGS	
THE U.S. vs. JOHN LENNON	TIPPING THE VELVET (BBC Mini-Series)	
V FOR VENDETTA	TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD	
YEAR OF THE DOG	TRAFFIC	
YIDDISCHE GAUCHOS (in English)	TRAINSPOTTING	
	TREMBLING BEFORE G-D	
	TWISTER	
	WAITING FOR PASOLINI (in Moroccan dialect of Arabic and Italian—with subtitles)	
	WALK ON WATER (in English, Hebrew, and German, with subtitles)	
	WAR GAMES	
	THE WICKER MAN (<u>original</u> version only)	
	WINGS OF DESIRE (in German and English)	
	WITNESS	
	WOMAN IN THE DUNES (in Japanese, with English subtitles)	
	ZORBA THE GREEK	