

English 345 – Film, Text, and Culture

Final Exam Essays (5 pages)

Requirements: Microsoft Word document

Due: Thursday, May 6, 2021 by 12:00 pm (via email)

Part I: (3 pages)

We shall conclude the course by working right up to the present. We will all watch the pandemic era film *Wonder Woman 1984* (2020) and think about it as a genre film. In three double-spaced pages, you should address the three C's (one per page). Page 1: what COGNITIVE categories does this film accommodate, and what is the ultimate genre to which it belongs? Why? Page 2: what COMMUNAL cultural problem solving does this film perform for its audiences? How does it evoke anxieties, concerns, etc. and then resolve those tensions? Page 3: what are the COMMERCIAL incentives that allow us to group this as a genre film in 2020? To what other specific films does it relate today? What are the similarities? Any there any key differences? Remember that genres are both “static” and “dynamic.”

Part II (2 pages)

Which film was your favorite from this course? Explain why while also taking into account how your study of genre enhanced your understanding of this film. Perhaps it had to do with an understanding of subgenres buried inside a film you thought belonged to only one big category (COGNITIVE). Maybe you learned that the context for a particular popular film changed your understanding of how it worked for audiences (COMMUNAL). Did the other films in the moneymaking orbit of this one enhance your sense of its importance as part of a larger group (COMMERCIAL)? Finally, how does the film relate to Washington, DC? What have you learned? Make sure you address the three C's in this short personal essay. I leave the formatting to you. Think of this as a longer and fuller blog post.

*Suggestion: Use the Writing Center for help with ideas and/or editing.

