

# Summer Cinema List

## Historical Movies

1. To Kill A Mocking Bird (NR) Depression era court room drama, racial issues
2. Dr. Strangelove (PG) "Black comedy" about the Cold War, Nuclear Age, Peter Sellers ☺
3. Casablanca (PG) World War II, romantic drama, Humphrey Bogart ☺
4. Citizen Kane (PG) considered a great film; rags to riches story about a news mogul
5. On the Water Front (NR)\* union corruption on the docks, a gritty film ☺
6. Gone With the Wind (G) Civil War classic with lots of Southern drama
7. The Bridge On the River Kwai (PG) World War II Japanese prison camp
8. Dances with Wolves (PG-13) post civil war frontier theme, Indian encounter
9. Spartacus (PG-13) epic saga based on ancient historical events when a vagabond slave-army led by an ex-gladiator ☺
10. Catch 22 (R)\* "black comedy" about a small group of flyers in the Mediterranean in 1944
11. All the President's Men (PG) reporters Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein brought down Richard M. Nixon
12. Raiders of the Lost Ark (PG) pre-war Nazis, race archeologist to the Ark ☺
13. To Russia With Love (PG) classic Cold War James Bond film
14. Malcolm X (PG-13) biography of Malcolm X ☺
15. Back to the Future (PG) 1980's teen time travels to the 1950's
16. The Untouchables (R)\* Prohibition law enforcement fights bootleggers ☺
17. The Last Picture Show (R)\* Korean War era, high school graduates as the last movie theater closes forever
18. Apocalypse Now (R)\* Vietnam War film
19. MASH (R)- Army doctors fighting military insanity and healing wounded soldiers during the Korean War
20. All Quiet on the Western Front (UR) Teenage German soldiers pass from idealism to despair in World War 1

## African American Movies

1. Men of Honor (R)\* U.S. Navy's first African-American master diver in this uplifting true story
2. The Express (R)\* the true story of Ernie Davis, the first African American to win football's Heisman Trophy
3. Their Eyes Were Watching God (NR) Black women deal with life in the 1920's
4. The Color Purple (PG13) a Southern woman whose correspondence with her sister in Africa helps her escape an abusive husband
5. In the Heat of the Night (NR) A Philadelphia detective helps a redneck Southern sheriff solve a murder in this fascinating study in racism that still strikes a resonant chord today
6. Glory (R)\* Civil War film depicting an all Black unit
7. Ruby Bridges (NR) the integration of an all-white school in the 1960s by first-grader Ruby Bridges
8. Raisin In the Sun (UR) inner-city black family struggles in the 1950's
9. New Jack City (R)\* a drug dealer at the dawn of the crack cocaine epidemic, enriches himself and enslaves his people via an inner-city crack factory
10. Jungle Fever (R)\* explores the gray area between love and sex and the other distractions that divide blacks and whites

11. **Do the Right Thing (R)\*** chronicles trivial events that bring festering racial tensions to the surface on a sweltering day in a largely black Brooklyn neighborhood

### Latino American Movies

1. **La Bamba (PG13)** film paints a vivid portrait of Ritchie Valens' modest upbringing, his warm relationship with his hard-working mother and his rise to stardom
2. **West Side Story (UR)** this classic musical set among the tenements of New York City finds star-crossed lovers caught in the midst of a turf war between rival gangs the Sharks and the Jets
3. **El Norte (R)\*** When the army ransacks their Guatemalan village, impoverished teenage siblings travel north through Mexico, hoping for a better life in America
4. **Milagro Bean Field Wars (R)\*** When a local resort owner wants to expand, farmer Joe takes a stand
5. **Raising Victor Vargas (R)\*** a Latino kid who fancies himself as a bit of a lothario around the ghetto

### Asian American Movies

1. **Flower Drum Song (NR)** Chinese beauty Mei Li arrives in San Francisco to meet her fiancé, wealthy nightclub owner Sammy Fong in an arranged marriage
2. **Joy Luck Club (R)\*** story of 4 Chinese women and their mothers
3. **Gandhi (PG)** biography of Gandhi 😊

### Classic Cinema

1. **North by Northwest (UR)**- from master director Alfred Hitchcock stars Cary Grant as an advertising executive who looks a little too much like someone else and is forced to go on the lam
2. **Rear Window (PG)**- man in wheel chair spies on neighbors, then launches an investigation when one disappears 😊
3. **Wizard of Oz (G)**- Dorothy gets swept from Kansas and enters the land of Oz
4. **Cool Hand Luke (NR)\*** man who likes to do things his own way. That leads to a world of hurt when he winds up in a hellish Southern prison camp 😊
5. **Shawshank Redemption (R)\*** Upstanding banker Andy Dufresne is framed for a double murder in the 1940s and begins a life sentence at the Shawshank prison 😊
6. **Stand By Me (R)\*** this coming-of-age tale about four boys about to enter high school
7. **This Is Spinal Tap (R)\*** a fictional heavy metal group named Spinal Tap spoofs nearly every facet of rock 'n' roll
8. **Rebel Without A Cause (UR)** portrait of teen angst provided a jolt to 1950s America.
9. **East of Eden (PG)** Tired of being compared to his perfect brother, troublemaker Cal tries in vain to please his father
10. **Breakfast of Tiffany's (NR)** fortune hunter Holly Golightly falls for a poor writer
11. **Sabrina (UR) (1954 Version)** when a burgeoning romance between his libertine brother David (William Holden) and the family chauffeur's daughter, Sabrina Fairchild (Audrey Hepburn), jeopardizes Linus' pending business merger, the workaholic CEO clears his calendar to derail the dalliance 😊
12. **The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance (NR)** man builds his political career on killing a famous outlaw, classic Western 😊
13. **Twelve Angry Men (UR) (1957 Version)** Twelve men must decide the fate of an 18-year-old boy accused of fatally stabbing his father
14. **The Sting (PG)** in 1930s Chicago, the duo plans to fleece a homicidal racketeer 😊

😊 = Mazur recommended

**SUMMER CINEMA QUESTION & ANSWER ASSIGNMENT**  
**(Worth 40 points per movie; 120 points total)**

**Must choose 3 movies-** pick films you have NOT seen

1 movie MUST be from the “Historical Movie” list

1 movie must be from either the African-America, Latino, or Asian-American movie list

1 movie can be from any list you wish

You do not necessarily need to rent/buy these movies. Many of them can be found in the library or amongst your friends'/families' movie collection.

For each movie viewed please answer questions 1-10.

1. What era is the movie depicting? How does this film reflect the time period it's depicting? (minimum 1 paragraph)
2. What year was the movie made? How does it reflect the time period in which it was made? (minimum 1 paragraph)
3. Is it historically accurate? (minimum 1 paragraph)
4. What would be different if this movie was made today? (Meaning would the themes change, not a question of technology) How so? (1 paragraph minimum)
5. Would this movie be made today? (give historical reasons why/why not?) (1 paragraph minimum)
6. Who is the director? Who was the writer(s)?
7. Who are the main characters and what are the names of the actor/actresses portraying them?
8. Write a summary of the plot. Explain the theme. (1 paragraph each)
9. Critique the film (i.e. how was the acting, the writing, visuals? What was the “watchability” level? Did you enjoy it?) Minimum 1 paragraph
10. How does this movie relate to either something you've learned about in history or something going on currently? (1 paragraph)

\* Must have parental permission slip signed **BEFORE** seeing the film  
UR= unrated, either pre rating or a new director's cut that was never rated  
NR= not rated, usually these are made for TV movies so were not rated as a movie  
R= Restricted, parental permission required to view one of these

Thanks to Netflix for providing movie summaries

## Permission Slip for the Summer Cinema Assignment

All "R-rated" movie selections must be approved by the pupil's parent/guardian, and this permission slip signed by that authority **before** any movies are viewed.

My daughter/son \_\_\_\_\_ has expressed an interest in viewing the following "R-rated" movies as part of the summer cinema assignment:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

My daughter/son has requested my permission to view the above-listed movies **PRIOR** to viewing them. I hereby provide my express permission to view the above-listed movies by signing below.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\*Please note: If you do not want your child to view any or all of the above-listed films, do not sign this permission slip. There are 53 movies to choose from, only 18 of which are "rated R". Therefore, your child can easily complete the assignment without viewing any "rated R" movies. All permission slips must be handed in with the summer assignment. Any and all assignments relating to one or more "rated R" film(s) will not be accepted without an appropriately executed permission slip.

Thanks for your time, hope you're enjoying your summer!

Mrs. Rebecca Mazur (US2 Honors teacher)

## Summer Cinema Project Assignment

(Worth 50 points)

Choose 1 project for 1 of the movies viewed

- 1. Draw a Movie Poster-** should portray an aspect of the film which you feel represents the movie. All historical blunders should be corrected for the poster. Follow the typical format for a movie poster advertising the film. (i.e. cast, director, producer, selling points of the film, etc.) 36x24 inches in size
- 2. Write a paper** comparing and contrasting the movie with actual historic events of the same time period. Discuss movie accuracy and what about the film would need to change in order to make it more realistic and historically accurate. 5 page minimum
- 3. Make your own movie**
  - Option A- Create a “movie trailer” for the film. Should include at least three pivotal scenes that you feel have significance to today’s movie viewer. Trailer must be burned unto a DVD so Mrs. Mazur can watch it at home. Minimum of 5 minutes. Also, submit a 1 page explanation of why you chose these scenes.
  - Option B- Remake the movie, choose at least three pivotal scenes and reshoot them, updating the look and feel as if the film were made today. Movie must be burned unto a DVD so Mrs. Mazur can watch it at home. Minimum of 5 minutes. Also, submit a 1 page explanation of why you chose these scenes.
  - Option C- Think of a sequel or prequel to the film and create a “movie trailer” for this film. Choose to show three pivotal scenes about what will happen next (or before). Trailer must be burned unto a DVD so Mrs. Mazur can watch it at home. Minimum of 5 minutes. Also, submit a 1 page explanation of why you think these scenes would appear in the sequel/prequel based on what you know about the character(s).
- 4. Write your own epilogue.** Choose at least 3 characters and write an epilogue for each (2 pages apiece; totaling 6). Base it upon what you know about the characters, keep the historical context in mind, make historical references, and remain true to both the era and character. (For example, Holly Golightly shouldn’t join the army because women didn’t do that in her time and because her character is entirely too prissy.)