

## **Film Assignments**

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### **1. Curated Screening**

1. Access the Routledge Encyclopedia of Modernism (REM) through the Library's main page.
2. Search for a central term related to the work(s) we are studying for the week you have signed up for.
3. Find three other research terms in the REM that are related to your central research term.
4. Using this network of 4 research terms, generate a collection of 5 films from that era that you think best exemplifies your chosen term. You can likely build this using YouTube if the films are in the public domain; consult your library for further potential resources.
5. Prepare a short 500 word essay that will accompany your curated screening that explains your choices, and the ordering of your choices as they relate to your chosen term. In what ways do the films reveal something about your topic? Which readings from the course do the films best fit with and why? In what ways do you see these films as influential on the second half of the twentieth century of cinema?

### **2. Adding Sound**

1. Access the Routledge Encyclopedia of Modernism through the Library's main page.
2. Search for a term related to the work(s) we are studying for the week you have signed up for.
3. Find two other research terms in the REM that are related to your central research term.
4. Choose one silent film that you think best exemplifies this network of research terms.
5. Add sound to at least two minutes of this film. Sound could be sound effects, voiceover, music etc. You can find sound effects and audio tracks at the Library of Congress website (<https://www.loc.gov/film-and-videos/>); consult your library for further potential resources.
5. Write a short 500 word essay explaining how your particular choices of sound changed the film. How did adding sound reflect the original term you chose to research? What does the use of sound reveal about your network of research term?

### **3. The Venue**

1. Access the Routledge Encyclopedia of Modernism through the Library's main page.
2. Search for a term related to the work(s) we are studying for the week you have signed up for.
3. Chose one film that you think best exemplifies this term.
3. Imagine that it is the first week that this film is to be shown and choose a likely venue where an audience might have seen the film. Pick a specific building/space in a specific city where you would want your chosen film to have been screened. Consult your library for specific research on the venue, city and era that you've chosen.
4. Write a short 500 word essay explaining your choice of venue: why did you choose it? What might it reveal about the film you've chosen? What might it reveal about the research term you chose? Also consider how you think an audience would have reacted to this film in your venue: what other global and/or local events were the background for this film's release? How might those events have shaped the viewing experience of the film?

### **4. Cinema Across Nations**

1. Access the Routledge Encyclopedia of Modernism through the Library's main page.
2. Search for a term related to the work(s) we are studying for the week you have signed up for.

3. Find two other research terms in the REM that are related to your central research term.
4. Choose three films from three different countries that you think exemplify your network of research terms and make a curated screening. You can likely build this using YouTube if the films are in the public domain; consult your library for further potential resources.
5. Write a short 500 word essay exploring how the three films overlap and what that overlap contributes to your chosen research term. What is the particular national context for each of the films? Were they supported by the government, and, if so, for what purposes? What is similar about your three films? What is different about these three films? What do these similarities and/or differences reveal about your chosen research term?

### **5. Colonialism and Film**

1. Access the Routledge Encyclopedia of Modernism through the Library's main page.
2. Search for a term related to the work(s) we are studying for the week you have signed up for.
3. Find two other research terms in the REM that are related to your central research term.
4. Choose two films that you feel show an overlap between colonial concerns (land acquisition, "civilizing" populations, "Othering" populations) and your chosen network of research terms. It may help to consider a specific area of the globe, or a specific colonial power of the time. You can likely build this using YouTube if the films are in the public domain; consult your library for further potential resources.
5. Write a 500 word essay exploring how colonial impulses related to your chosen network of research terms. In what ways was film a potential tool for colonialism and how do your chosen films show this? What ideas and/or concepts were the films creating and/or reinforcing? How do your chosen films overlap with your network of research terms and the larger concerns of Modernity as a whole?

### **6. Women and Film History**

1. Access the Routledge Encyclopedia of Modernism through the Library's main page.
2. Search for a term related to the work(s) we are studying for the week you have signed up for.
3. Search the REM for "Feminist Film" as well as at least one entry on a female filmmaker and/or female movie star.
4. Make a playlist of three films that were directed by that woman and/or star that woman as the lead actor that relate to your chosen network of research terms. You can likely build this using YouTube if the films are in the public domain; consult your library for further potential resources.
5. Write a 500 word essay that explores the relationship between women, filmmaking and your chosen network of research terms. What particular forms of resistance did your chosen films face because of the central involvement of a woman? What perspectives were added based on the central involvement of a woman? How does the central involvement of a woman reveal something about your network of research terms.?

### **7. Montage**

1. Access the Routledge Encyclopedia of Modernism (REM) through the Library's main page.
2. Search for a central term related to the work(s) we are studying for the week you have signed up for.
3. Find the REM entry for "Montage" as well as at least one other research term in the REM that is related to your central research term.
4. Based on your network of research terms, visit the Library of Congress website (<https://www.loc.gov/film-and-videos/>), or another website where you can download films clips, and download at least 3 film clips.
5. Take your chosen three films and montage them together. Feel free to cut the clips into smaller parts and splice them. You can use open source software like Open Shot (<https://www.openshot.org/>) or another film editing software to make your montage.

6. Write a 500 word essay linking your network of research terms to the act of montage. How did montaging the clips together change their meaning? How did that changed meaning reflect on your chosen network of research terms?

### **8. Find films not related to central term**

1. Access the Routledge Encyclopedia of Modernism (REM) through the Library's main page.
2. Search for a central term related to the work(s) we are studying for the week you have signed up for.
3. Find two other research terms in the REM that are related to your central research term.
4. Make a playlist of 3 films that you feel DO NOT relate to, or are in opposition to, your chosen term. You can likely build this using YouTube if the films are in the public domain.
5. Write a 500 word essay on why you have chosen the films that you did. What do you think the "non-relationship" between your films and your research term reveal about the films? What does that non-relationship reveal about the research term? What are the limits of your chosen research term and are those limits a strength? A weakness?

### **9. Early Cinema and Title Cards**

1. Access the Routledge Encyclopedia of Modernism (REM) through the Library's main page.
2. Search for a central term related to the work(s) we are studying for the week you have signed up for.
3. Find one silent film that you think relates to your chosen research term.
4. Within the REM, find one poet from within 5 years of your chosen film's release. Choose one of that poet's poems.
5. Choose a two minute section of your film and add your chosen poem to that two minutes as title cards. You can use open source software like Open Shot (<https://www.openshot.org/>) or another film editing software to make your montage.
6. Write a 500 word essay about how the relationship between the chosen poem, film and your research term. In what ways did title cards function in early cinema? In particular, how did adding the poem as title cards change the film? What did adding those title cards reveal about the research term?

### **10. Non-fiction films**

1. Access the Routledge Encyclopedia of Modernism (REM) through the Library's main page.
2. Search for a central term related to the work(s) we are studying for the week you have signed up for.
3. Look up "World Film News" in the REM.
4. Consider a major historical event related to your chosen research term. Search the REM for information on that event. Try to find at least two other articles related to your historical event.
5. Searching YouTube and/or the Library of Congress, make a playlist of 3 non-fiction films that bring together your research terms and your historical event.
6. Write a 500 word essay exploring how the non-fiction clips you've chosen structure the historical event that they portray. What is the nature of your chosen clips (Newsreel? Propaganda? Documentary footage?) and how does that affect the portrayal of the historical event? How do the films relate to your network of chosen research terms?

### **11. What's missing from the REM?**

1. Access the Routledge Encyclopedia of Modernism (REM) through the Library's main page.
2. Search for a central term related to the work(s) we are studying for the week you have signed up for.

3. Find three other research terms in the REM that are related to your central research term.
4. Consider your chosen network of research terms. What information, thinker, maker, work etc do you think is missing from this network. Check to see if the REM has an entry on this topic.
5. List three entries that are missing from the REM.
5. Write a 100 word essay on what you think further information on the missing topics would add to your chosen network of research terms. Why do you think the topics are missing? Are there patterns to be found in their omission?
6. Write a 500 word essay that you could submit to the REM on one of the missing topics. Give a basic history as well a sense of the topic's importance to Modernity and other existing entrants in the REM