

FILM CRITIQUE FORM

This is simply a guide. You should be able to develop your own structure for the analysis of a film that includes many of these structural elements. The primary goal of the critique is to provide you with a mechanism for analyzing the effectiveness of the film as an artistic statement, as well as a developing expertise in understanding how social issues are represented and manipulated through the medium of film.

Title: The Wizard of Oz Year Produced: 1939

Production Company: Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Soundtrack writer(s): Herbert Stothart, Carl W. Stalling (uncredited), Max Steiner (replaced), Harold Arlen, E. Y. Harburg

Lead Actor(s): Judy Garland, Ray Bolger, Jack Haley, Bert Lahr and Frank Morgan

Purpose/aim/message/artistic effect of film as you see it:

HOW DOES THIS FILM ACHIEVE ITS PURPOSE THROUGH:

Narration (story, dramatic appeal, motivation, closure, point of view)

Sound (music, dialogue, silence, language, narrator, sound effects)

Photography (focus, frame, angle, movement, space, sets, light, color)

Editing (order, cuts, duration, rhythm, continuity, montage, motifs)

HOW DOES THIS FILM REPRESENT SOCIAL ISSUES?

WHAT BIASES, POLITICAL OR IDEOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES ARE REFLECTED IN THE FILM?

HOW DOES THIS FILM TRY TO "MAKE ITS CASE" OR PERSUADE YOU OF ITS MESSAGE?

(for example, by emotional appeal, documentary authority, alienation effect, symbolism, manipulated point of view -- give examples; & is it persuasive?)

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OR OBSERVATIONS