

## SPAN/FILM 301

### Discussion notes for full-length feature films

#### RATIONALE

Taking notes while studying each class's assignment is essential to the learning process. By taking notes, we engage actively with the material, we assimilate the information to a greater degree, we remember it better, and we are able to reformulate what we have learned to produce our own interpretations and analyses. **Note taking is indispensable for our making what we study a part of our own mental archive and communicative repertoire.**

Students enrolled in this course are expected to take notes on while viewing the full-length feature movies. They are expected to organize these notes, afterwards, according to the format indicated below, and they will post their notes to the course [SPAN 301 Blog](#) in anticipation of each class. (SPAN265 students will be assign specific supplementary topics to comment on, in Spanish, in the [Blog for the CLAC section](#).) This exercise is intended to sharpen your ability engage actively in classroom discussions. The notes you take will foster your spontaneous participation in those discussions and will thereby contribute to your mastering the material successfully. They will also contribute to the atmosphere of open dialogue, since the Blog entries will be available for all students to view.

We do not expect highly polished notes. You will be evaluated for your efforts and for your contributions to a collective teaching/learning environment.

#### DEADLINE

Please submit your commentaries to the Blog **by noon** on the day in which the movie will be discussed in class

#### FORMAT

Unless otherwise instructed, please adhere to the following format in submitting your Blog posts:

##### **1. Theme:**

Summarize what you have studied according to the main theme(s), to the conceptual coherence of the material. Try to identify the various dimensions or aspects of that theme according to the different moments or motifs that it is founded on, or according to the different ways in which it is portrayed. This is your first step toward conceptualizing and synthesizing the material in terms of its coherence and overarching significance.

##### **2. Significant passages / moments / quotes / stylistic elements**

Identify between 1 and 3 items that you find to be especially significant. Be prepared to explain why in class.

##### **3. Doubts, questions**

Formulate one important question that you would like your classmate(s) to help you resolve.

