

COM 493--Cleveland and Film Seminar

Assignment: Imaging Cleveland Assignment--"Movie Reviews"

Due: April 26 (a Thursday)

Worth: A maximum of 20 pts. (10% of your course grade)

Important: Your write-up for this assignment must be *emailed* to your instructor (me) at: k.neuendorf@csuohio.edu. I will post all the reviews on April 27, and everyone should read the collection and include a journal entry with your summary conclusion about how Cleveland is "imaged" by the set of films.

For this assignment, you need to view the two films you signed up for on the in-class list (see me if you can't remember, or if you can't find a film). For each of the two films *separately*, do the following:

1. Indicate title, director, and year of release. Other production info. (e.g., released by Buena Vista) would be nice.
2. Give a synopsis of the plot.
3. Describe and evaluate the treatment of Cleveland in the film. Is Cleveland supposed to be Cleveland in the film, or does it stand in for another city? How would you describe the "role" it plays (e.g., industrial blight, hard-rocking city, etc.)? Give us a lot here--this part is the real *heart* of the assignment.
4. Give any Cleveland-related "trivia" type info. you can think of. This could include, but should not necessarily be limited to, information about locations (e.g., "Several key scenes were shot in the old Municipal Stadium, apparently during a real Browns game.") or the backgrounds of people involved in the production (e.g., "The film is a semi-autobiographical story by screenwriter and Cleveland native Joe Esterhaus.").
5. Give it your own "thumbs up" or "thumbs down," both in terms of the quality and enjoyability of the film, and in terms of how the Cleveland area fares.

Most of all, have fun on this one!