

PSY 108 Reflection & Application Paper: Psychology in the movies

For this Reflection & Application paper, you will choose a movie (or a TV show or a book) that relates to specific psychological concepts that we have discussed. Choose a movie (or a TV show or a book) that you've already seen, or ask your instructor for suggestions. Many movies can be watched online through Swank Digital Campus, a database that is available through Shapiro Library.

When you write your Reflection & Application paper, make sure you discuss the following:

- 1) Give a brief summary of the movie (or TV show or book) that you watched, summarizing the relevant aspects of the film. Your summary should be one short paragraph.
- 2) Choose **TWO** concepts (could be a term, a theory, or a study) that we have discussed in class that are relevant to the movie that you watched. Clearly define and explain each concept.
- 3) Explain why/how each concept that you chose relates to the film. Be specific, e.g. describe a specific scene or a specific moment in the movie that is an example of a concept, and make sure you clearly and thoughtfully explain *why* this is an example of the concept.

For example, I select Finding Nemo for my movie. In this movie, there are two themes I want to address. The first is attachment between parent and child. This is illustrated by the adventures of the father to find his son, Nemo. The second theme is memory, illustrated by the memory issues that Dory is experiencing. That would be a movie, two concepts and how they are written in the movie. Note how specific I am and how I relate the movie to precise topics we have covered.

- Your final paper should be 2-3 pages, double-spaced
- You should write as if you are the expert, explaining concepts and describing your experiences to an audience that is not familiar with these concepts. Think of someone you know who is intelligent, but doesn't know a lot about psychology, and imagine you are writing this paper to teach them about psychology and its application to the real world.
- You will be evaluated based on your ability to clearly explain the psychological concepts that you are discussing, the depth of your discussion about how these concepts apply to the real world. Use of appropriate language, spelling/grammar, and proofreading will also be considered when evaluating your paper.