

Movie/TV Show Mentor Session Presentation

Each mentor session will prepare and deliver a 30-minute group presentation describing an in-depth understanding of family life from the beliefs, values, rituals, perspectives, etc. of family life as depicted in a movie or TV show (where family life is a dominant theme). The presentation will provide a “voice” of this family from their viewpoint of what it means to live in their family (such as, what is important, what traditions and rituals were part of their family life, what problems existed and how they dealt (or didn’t deal) with them,) and what current contemporary issue was depicted and how history, cultural, SES, ethnicity, etc. influenced their interactions and roles. Any other aspects you found interesting or compelling can be included. If more than one family is depicted, such as in the movie *The Help*, compare and contrast differences in social strata, SES, racism, etc. between the families and the meaning that held for them. Finally, take a stand and state which theory or perspective underlies the family beliefs and how/why they came to hold those beliefs.

Discuss which movie/TV show you want to critique in your mentor session and seek the permission from your mentor that it is appropriate and that no other group is using the same. The mentor will let me know what you pick so I will be able to view them beforehand.

The following activities need to be included:

- a. Select the movie/TV show. All students in that mentor session will view it on their own BEFORE May 1st. In mentor sessions, discuss as a group the important issues and perspectives depicted. Decide what seems the most relevant and compelling and organize your presentation ideas into categories, such as: the most important and prominent themes, common threads throughout the narrative, the cultural/religious/societal values underlying the meanings of family life, what you learned from this family’s perspective that you didn’t know before, what societal influences support (or not) their family, what family means, what traditions they engage in, what beliefs are important to the family, roles in the family and who does them, etc.
- b. Describe the contemporary issue(s) depicted and how history, cultural, SES, ethnicity, etc. influenced their interactions, roles, beliefs, values, etc. Be sure and compare and contrast differences in the families depicted in the movie and explain how social strata, SES, racism, bias, etc. influenced those differences and the meaning that held for them.
- c. Take a stand and state which theory or perspective underlies the family beliefs and how/why they came to hold those beliefs (do not provide all perspectives!).
- d. Develop an electronic presentation of your “findings” (Prezi), due 5/31 regardless of the day you will present.
- e. Present your “findings.” To facilitate discussion afterward, prepare 10 questions to ask the class related to your presentation (also due 5/31).