

## To Do For Week Three

This is your Week Three To Do list that is emailed to your gmail address (and posted to OpenLab, Discord, and Drive). By completing these items you maintain attendance in the course and get everything out of it that you signed up for.

### Introduction

We are holding a class discussion on Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. During this time, we will review and discuss scenes from the movies *The Thin Red Line* and *Baahubali*. We will go over the film journal assignment, as well as the first assignment you will have, “the film inventory,” which we will do as an OpenLab discussion. I’m happy to also answer any and all questions you may have about any aspect of the course during this time—because this is an online class, getting your questions answered quickly is a priority so that you stay oriented to the work of the course.

You do not need to attend our synchronous sessions, but obviously they will be helpful. These meetings will be recorded and hosted in the Course Documents folder for those who can’t make it and want to review our discussion. I will hold office hours immediately afterwards for those of you with additional questions or concerns.

Join Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/99232791355?pwd=aENZU2ZzalR1NHhnMkY0bno1MTJKZz09>

Meeting ID: 992 3279 1355

Passcode: 361627

### Week 2 Recap: What You Should Have Already Done

- 1) Join our Discord server, <https://discord.gg/C72Pwsr>. That is where I answer questions fastest.
- 2) Have a look at our class OpenLab at <https://openlab.citytech.cuny.edu/eng-2400-ol50-films-from-literature-fall-2020/>.
- 3) Your Week 2 Film Journal for *The Passion of the Christ* is due on Thursday (9/10) and worth up to 35 points. You can do a film journal for *Baahubali* (or other comparison films from previous weeks) at any time during the semester. Remember, you must do two additional film journals from the comparison films at some point through the semester (for a total of 15). Any film journals you do beyond 15 will be applied as extra credit to supplement your grade. Don’t rush them at the end of the semester though because your credit will depend, in part, on your evidence of preparation.

### Week 3 To Do: Prepare, Watch, and Write About *The Thin Red Line* (dir. Mel Gibson) (35 pts., Due 9/17)

- 1) Go to the course documents folder on Drive and read “James Jones, Terrence Malick, and The Thin Red Line” (Christle, 2002). This is a genre of academic essay called a “conference paper,” which is a short, focused argument about some narrowly defined topic meant to be read in one sitting. Christle’s paper discusses how Malick presents his audience with a fundamentally different tone and characterizations in the film’s story than Jones’ in the novel and this created a consequentially different war movie (one with heroes). Take some notes so you will have something to say for your film journal. Again, don’t skip this part of the homework—it will make the film journal easier.
- 2) Rent and watch our third film, *The Thin Red Line* (see link [here](#) for Amazon Prime rental). Written and directed by Terrence Malick and starring Jim Caviezel. Take notes on the film as you watch it. What stands out to you? What do you like the most, or don’t understand? What questions do you have? What can you say about this film in terms of the filmic elements (e.g., cinematography, mise-en-scene, sound, story, and editing)?
- 3) If you haven’t already, read the Intertextual Film Journal Assignment in the course drive folder to review the expectations for the film journals and some ideas about how to complete them successfully.
- 4) Using MLA formatting ([link here](#)), write your film journal entry about *The Thin Red Line*. Like with previous films, you can write about most anything you want. Again, I don’t need a plot synopsis. Instead, give me a coherent perspective,

ideally informed by your readings, perspective, and informed opinion. You can name the file “Film Journal Entry – The Thin Red Line – Your Last Name.” Focus on the quality of your ideas.

**Week 3 To Do: Watch and Write About *Schindler’s List* (dir. Steven Spielberg) (35 pts., Due 9/17; optional)**

- 1) Read the prologue to the novel “Schindler’s List” (Keneally, 1993; 13 pages) in the course documents folder.
- 2) Watch the film *Schindler’s List*, a film based on a historical non-fiction account (i.e., some fictional elements) of a true and remarkable story (see the prologue to the novel). It is currently on Netflix [here](#). You are not required to watch or do a film journal entry for this film, but if you do, you can use it as one of your two extra entries or receive up to 35 pts. extra credit for your efforts.

**Week 4: Look Ahead**

1. The film inventory will be assigned during week four of the course and uses OpenLab. Take the time to orient yourself to OpenLab now.