

To Do For Week Six

You have received your first grade report of the semester. Please review it and let me know if you believe there is an error. It happens sometimes when you compute an average of 400 grade components per class. Also, review the Film Journal Assignment in the shared documents folder. Some of you are doing the best work I've ever seen in ENG 2400. Some of you are producing work at a level that needs to be improved.

Zoom Session

Class discussion will be on Thursday, October 1st from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the new room with office hours immediately afterwards. We will review and discuss scenes from the movies *Boyz n the Hood* and *Do The Right Thing*. Our meeting will be recorded and hosted in the Course Documents folder for your review along with class notes for that day.

NEW ZOOM MEETING ROOM

<https://zoom.us/j/92370166056?pwd=VHZaS1QrZTU2cVp3US9XWWFGdllodz09>

Meeting ID: 923 7016 6056

Passcode: films

Week 5 Recap: What You Should Have Already Done

- 1) Your Week 5 Film Journal for *Boyz n the Hood* is due on Thursday (10/8) and worth up to 35 points. You can do a film journal for *Do the Right Thing* (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.

Week 6 To Do: Prepare, Watch, and Write About *Paris Is Burning* (dir. Jennie Livingston) (35 pts., 10/1)

- 1) Rent and watch *Paris Is Burning* a documentary filmed by Jennie Livingston. 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)?
- 2) Read "[The Drag Queen Had a Mummy in Her Closet](#)" (Kasindorf, 1994). This magazine article paints a scandalous portrait of one of the stars of the documentary that we will discuss during Week 7 through the lens of popular media. 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.
- 3) Then read "[The Slap of Love](#)" (Cunningham, 1995) a journalistic portrait of Angie Xtravaganza. Compare the portrayal of Angie and Dorian in the two pieces. What differences do you notice? How do these compare to the portrayal of the performers in *Paris Is Burning*.
- 4) Using MLA formatting ([link here](#)), write your film journal entry about *Paris Is Burning*. 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. For full credit, it should be constructed out of your readings, perspective, or opinion informed by your own research. You can name the file "Film Journal Entry - Paris Is Burning - Your Last Name." Focus on the quality of your ideas.

Week 6 To Do: Watch and Write About *Trainspotting* (dir. Danny Boyle, 1996) (35 pts., Due 10/8 or after; optional)

- 1) Read the first 25 pages of the novel, *Trainspotting* (Welsh, 1996) found in our course documents folder.
- 2) Watch the film *Trainspotting*, Danny Boyle's controversial culture about youth heroin culture in early 1990s Manchester, England. 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 7: Look Ahead

- 1) We will be watching *Daughters of the Dust* (dir. Julie Dash) and *Boy* (dir. Taika Waititi) for next week.