

Films - Historical Connections

- * This was supplied by a teacher who thought that these films might help make “history” real for the students. If you have any to add, feel free to email me at cpike@gov.nl.ca

Re: France

- Dangerous Liaisons: Classic film on the decadence of the French Aristocracy
- Ridicule: Life at Versailles prior to 1789
- Les Misérables: France during the <<other>> revolutions
- Day of the Jackal: Based on the assassination attempt of Charles DeGaulle
- Indochine: Last days of the French Empire

Re: Germany

- Swing Kids: Teenagers rebel against the tide of Nazism in Germany
- Inside the Third Reich: Based on Albert Speer’s Memoirs
- Rise and Fall of the Third Reich: Still the best documentary on the rise of Hitler
- Sound of Music: Subtle undertones of the coming of Anschluss

Re: Italy

- Great Dictator: Charlie Chaplin as a dictator... good contrast to:
- Mussolini: A & E biography
- Cinema Paradiso: Italy after fascism
- Tea with Mussolini: Encroachment of fascism in the 1930s
- Life is Beautiful: Touching Story of Italian Jewish family under fascist rule

Re: Spain

- For Whom the Bell Tolls: Hemingway’s tale of the Spanish Civil War
- The Disappearance of Garcia Lorca: Menace of Franco in the 1930's

Re: World War I

- Gallipoli: Anti-war statement
- Lawrence of Arabia: Tale of T.E. Lawrence & impact of WW1 on the Ottoman Empire
- Paths of Glory: Anti-war film directed by Stanley Kubrick
- The Blue Max: Aerial warfare, told from a German point of view
- All Quiet on the Western Front: Classic anti-war film (1927)

Re: Russia an Soviet Union

- Dr. Zhivago: Epic of the Russian Revolution
- Nicholas and Alexandra: Interesting treatment of Rasputin
- Stalin: Robert Duvall as Stalin
- Reds: Life and times of John Reed, the only American buried in the Kremlin Wall

Re: World War II

- Casablanca: Resistance intrigue in French Morocco
- Europa, Europa: Soldiers' perspective
- Battle of Britain: Classic battle film
- Das Boot: view of life on a German U-boat
- Hope and Glory: Life in England during the Blitz
- Empire of the Sun: China during Japanese occupation
- Fat Man and Little Boy: Development of the Atom Bomb
- Au revoir les enfants: French film about the Holocaust
- Schindler's List: Classic film about the Holocaust
- Saving Private Ryan: Spielberg's account of the invasion of Normandy
- Thin Red Line: Portrays the dehumanizing force of war
- Devil's Arithmetic: Jewish girl finds herself transported back to occupied Poland
- Enemy at the Gates: Battle of Stalingrad

Re: Cold War

- Truman: Biography of the man who dropped the bomb
- Bridges at Toko-Ri: Aerial combat in the Korean War
- M*A*S*H* : Film about Korea but really about Vietnam
- The Manchurian Candidate: All about brainwashing...
- Dr. Strangelove: Peter Sellers in multiple roles about the possibility of nuclear war
- Full Metal Jacket: later version of the Vietnam War
- Platoon: Classic film on Vietnam
- Good Morning Vietnam: Biased view of the war... and if you enjoy Robin Williams
- Apocalypse Now: Highly recommended
- The Killing Fields: Chilling account of Cambodia in the aftermath of the Vietnam war
- Born on the Fourth of July: Aftermath of the Vietnam war on veterans of war
- Thirteen Days: Dramatic account of the Cuban missile crisis
- Tiger Land