

Movie Costume Projects:

Since our last class meeting where I expressed my concern that my Historical PowerPoint slideshows were sending folks to sleep, and where I also announced my intent of shortening the amount of in class time spent on these Costume History lessons, I have resolved two methods by which you can absorb some costume history through movie watching, while gaining points.

For those who have time to watch movies, but struggle with writer's block, we have:

Watch Historical Costume Films, prove you watched, and go. 10 points possible, each, up to 10 films (aka 100 pts) total

Watch a film from the "Historical" list below which is notable for its "Period" costumes. As briefly as possible, in any method you find easy (sketch, brief written description, whatever) demonstrate that you saw the film (rather than trawled the net for pix of the leads) by showing/describing a costume that arrested your attention worn by a minor character or background "extra" in the film.

Costume Movie Reviews 20 pts possible, each, up to 5 films (aka 100 pts) total

Watch any film which is notable for its costumes, either period, fantasy, sci-fi, or some variant on those themes. You are not limited by the list below. Write a short (1-3 pg) review of the costumes in the film, where you describe at least three scenes in the film where costume was used effectively (or ineffectively) to delineate between characters, or where a group of costumes managed (or failed) to effectively set a scene or "world" in which the characters lived. You don't need to use technical terminology if you don't know it, but do describe with specific detail which characters in which scenes you are writing about, and which colors/shapes/details in the costumes made you think they were effective (or not) in doing their job. While I will attempt to return your reviews with corrections of grammar and writing style so you can gradually improve your writing, *you will not be graded on spelling, grammar or style, so don't sweat that stuff*. What I'd like to see is evidence that you saw the film and thought about the costumes you saw from a costume designer's perspective, noting things like color, silhouette, texture, and details and what they say to you. Kind of like when you were analyzing the fabrics in lab last Friday trying to find adjectives to describe the characters those fabrics evoked for you.

You can see some examples of writing on costume movies (as well as lots of good movies for this project) at these sites:

Thread by Thread is filled with good examples of costume movie reviews, which are good examples of how to write intelligently on the topic. <https://threadbythread.wordpress.com>

Frock Flicks is a Podcast, with a Blog by the Podcaster group, with lots of Costume Reviews on it, in case you want an idea of how a person might write a more free form stream of consciousness tale on these matters. <http://www.frockflicks.com/>

Examples of some very brief reviews of costume films:

<http://www.hollywoodreporter.com/lists/best-costumes-film-2016-953443/item/la-la-land-best-costumes-film-2016-953462>

Historical Costume Film List:

Medieval:

Henry V <https://www.amazon.com/Henry-V-Laurence-Olivier/dp/B01K4513NG> (Has both Medieval and 17th Century sections)

Romeo & Juliet https://www.amazon.com/dp/B000X4GXT0/ref=pd_cbs_318_2

The Reckoning <https://www.amazon.com/Reckoning-Paul-Bettany/dp/B000I546CU>

16th Century:

Dangerous Beauty <https://www.amazon.com/Dangerous-Beauty-Catherine-McCormack/dp/B010P5FU8Q>

A Man for All Seasons <https://www.amazon.com/Man-All-Seasons-Paul-Scofield/dp/B003TQ1IW6/>

Elizabeth <https://www.amazon.com/Elizabeth-Cate-Blanchett/dp/B0026IQYEA>

Mary Queen of Scots <https://www.amazon.com/Anne-Thousand-Days-Queen-Scots/dp/B000RF7XYX>

Shakespeare in Love <https://www.amazon.com/Shakespeare-Love-Geoffrey-Rush/dp/B00BB8Q13A>

17th Century:

Cyrano de Bergerac <https://www.amazon.com/Cyrano-Bergerac-Gérard-Depardieu/dp/B0000YEENU>

The Three Musketeers <https://www.amazon.com/Three-Musketeers-Charlton-Heston/dp/B00DIXXSQO>

Vatel <https://www.amazon.com/Vatel-Gerard-Depardieu/dp/B00AOTY6CK>

Restoration <https://www.amazon.com/dp/B00EFQJMMC>

18th Century:

Brotherhood of the Wolf <https://www.amazon.com/Brotherhood-Wolf-Christophe-Gans/dp/B00006ADEM>

Dangerous Liaisons <https://www.amazon.com/Dangerous-Liaisons-Glenn-Close/dp/B0012DW6W4/>

Marie Antoinette <https://www.amazon.com/Marie-Antoinette-Kirsten-Dunst/dp/B006TLZO9G>

Belle <https://www.amazon.com/Belle-Tom-Felton/dp/B00KOAMW16>

The Scarlet Pimpernel <https://www.amazon.com/SCARLET-PIMPERNEL-Anthony-Andrews/dp/B00BCOJGUW>

19th Century:

Sense and Sensibility <https://www.amazon.com/Sense-Sensibility-Hugh-Grant/dp/B0019TYQ38/>

The Young Victoria <https://www.amazon.com/dp/B003D513TQ/>

Impromptu <https://www.amazon.com/Impromptu-Judy-Davis/dp/B001A5KRNO>

Angels and Insects (not downloadable online, borrow from Tara)

The Age of Innocence <https://www.amazon.com/dp/B000TVLYDC/>

Topsy Turvy (not downloadable online, borrow from Tara)

Anna Karenina <https://www.amazon.com/Anna-Karenina-Keira-Knightley/dp/B008220C38/>

Anna Karenina <https://www.amazon.com/Anna-Karenina-Sophie-Marceau/dp/B06WWQNH58>

Crimson Peak <https://www.amazon.com/Crimson-Peak-Mia-Wasikowska/dp/B016Q1LVIG>

20th Century:

Gigi <https://www.amazon.com/Gigi-Leslie-Caron/dp/B0091WROVQ>

A Room With A View <https://www.amazon.com/Room-View-Maggie-Smith/dp/B015IVLA2M>

The Wings of the Dove <https://www.amazon.com/Wings-Dove-Helena-Bonham-Carter/dp/B006S080DK>

The Boy Friend <https://www.amazon.com/Boy-Friend-Twiggy/dp/B007QJ90CC/>

The Cotton Club <https://www.amazon.com/Cotton-Club-Richard-Gere/dp/B00950XM1U>

Tucker: The Man and His Dream <https://www.amazon.com/Tucker-Man-Dream-Jeff-Bridges/dp/B0036OUENA>

Hidden Figures <https://www.amazon.com/Hidden-Figures-Taraji-P-Henson/dp/B01LTI1RHG>