

DOCUMENTARY FILM ANALYSIS ASSIGNMENT • HIS 3310 • SUMMER 2025

Guidelines & Expectations for Final Evaluation

Students will select one sports documentary film between 60-120 minutes in length. The list of films is not available on the course website. Instead, explore offerings on ESPN+, Amazon Prime Video, Netflix, Paramount+, Apple TV+, etc. And some are free on YouTube (research a bit to ensure quality)

- Some examples include, but are not limited to: *No Mas*, *Brothers in Exile*, *Fernando Nation*, *Marion Jones*, *The Two Escobars*, *Skateboard Nation*, *Stephen Curry: Underrated*, *Soccertown USA*, *The U*, *The Dominican Dream*, *Nature Boy*, *Ghosts of Ole Miss*, *Be Water*, *The Infinite Race*, *Into the Wind*, etc.
- Please check with Belk Library about any doc films on sports they have accessible; however, you can probably find many documentary films online or via streaming services
- Contact me as soon as possible if you run into a problem.

Submit a 650-800 word academic film review that does the following: provides a brief background of the topic, a condensed summary of how well the film engages with the topic, an explanation of the directors' main point, particular critiques of the film (what worked well, where it fell flat or seemed confusing), and a final assessment of the merits of the film for our understanding of sport history (... and maybe who is the film's potential audience).

Submit on AsU Learn anytime, but no later than by June 25.

SUBMISSION ELEMENTS

- ☐ [Module 3 Preview Activity asks you to choose your film by June 9-10.]
- ☐ Film Analysis contains:
 - ☐ Title. Provide the bibliographic citation of the film using Chicago Style for films
 - ☐ Brief synopsis of the film (what it's about); offer a brief structure review
 - ☐ Directors' main point(s) or message
 - ☐ Brief background of the topic (historical context)
 - ☐ A summary of how well the film engages with the topic
 - ☐ Critiques of the film (what worked well, seemed confusing, or where it fell flat)
 - ☐ A final, concluding assessment of the merits of the film and who might find it appealing (potential audiences).
- ☐ Proofed for grammar, spelling, and structure. Word count between 650-800 words.
- ☐ Submitted **by June 25**. Absolute cut off is by 11:59 am.

ASSESSMENT & FEEDBACK

For: _____ / _____ of 10 pts.

CRITERIA	Excellent	Good	Needs Work	Insufficient/ Incomplete	No Evidence
Met all formatting requirements, including book citation, and name					
<i>Adhered to word count; posted on time; avoids spelling/grammar issues</i>					
Structure of review: Clearly written/developed, organized, easy to follow					
Completeness: Offers a thorough film review; has most-to-all elements for an academic review (see checklist)					
Quality of analysis: smart, paid attention to the film, understands the story and its message, and potential audience, connects to the larger themes discussed in HIS 3310					
OVERALL: -					