

You have the opportunity to do some extra credit for this semester. We are very lucky to have many opportunities to interact with history here in Denver. You have the opportunity to visit a museum OR watch any of the movies listed on this sheet. You can only do ONE Of the following things for extra credit.

If you choose to visit a museum or exhibit you will be asked to write a response that speaks about how the museum connects to history we studied this year. The movies you will do the same. You should write a 1 page reflection about what you saw and how it connects to US History.

*Black American West Museum...*

Preserves the history and culture of those African American men and women who helped settle and develop the American West. Located in the former home of Dr. Justina Ford, the first Black woman doctor in Denver. Exhibits on African American cowboys including Bill Pickett. Call for hours and admission info.

*Denver Art Museum – American Indian Art Collection*

Our newly remodeled [American Indian art](#) galleries focus on artists, their creations, and their inspirations.

The DAM's American Indian art collection includes more than 18,000 art objects representing the heritage of all cultures and tribes across the United States and Canada. Recognized as one of the best of its kind in the United States, the collection spans more than 2,000 years of artistic creativity, from prehistoric times to the present.

The collection includes diverse artistic traditions such as Pueblo ceramics, Navajo textiles, Northwest Coast sculpture, basketry, Plains beadwork, and oil paintings, representing the full range of American Indian art styles. Over the past 80 years, these artworks have been featured both nationally and internationally in scholarly publications, innovative exhibitions, and educational programs.

*The Counterterrorism Education Learning Lab (CELL)...*

The Counterterrorism Education Learning Lab (The CELL) is a non-profit institution dedicated to addressing the most important global issue of our time – terrorism. Its exhibits and programs provide a comprehensive look at the security and related social challenges that face civilized societies today. The CELL exists to educate citizens on the realities of today's global terrorism threats, and seeks to empower both individuals and organizations with the knowledge and the tools to proactively effect change. The CELL is located within the Denver Civic Center Cultural Complex, across from the Denver Art Museum. The CELL is founded by Larry A. Mizel and is affiliated with the Mizel Museum. The organization's exhibit, *Anyone, Anytime, Anywhere: Understanding the Threat of Terrorism*, is experiential and interactive using state-of-the-art multimedia tools to educate its visitors. It is the only exhibit of its kind in the world. The mission of this exhibit is to advance and disseminate information about terrorism and the ideologies that attempt to justify and drive its proliferation. The CELL strives to deepen public understanding by encouraging visitors to think about the moral, philosophical, legal and existential questions raised by terrorist organizations, and the best known policies employed to combat such current and future threats to American citizens and people around the world. These are not easy questions. The CELL intends to encourage community involvement and activism, providing patrons with information to help them prepare for and help to prevent the next terrorist attack.

Movies you could watch...

***Grapes of Wrath* (1940)**

John Ford's classic rendition of Steinbeck's novel captures the spirit of the Great Depression and the plight of poor folks of that time better than any film I can think of. The film portrays the courageous Joad family in pursuit of the American dream in the face of adversity—two especially memorable moments occur with Tom's farewell and Ma Joad's "we are the people" speech.

Some of the camera shots even look like the published photos coming out of the Dust Bowl from the 1930's.

***Patton* (1970)**

George C. Scott becomes George S. Patton in this epic war film. You can learn a lot of WWII history through the film (at least the U.S. involvement on the European front), but even better – you can gain insights into the complex and controversial poet warrior himself. For people who wonder whether the film is for hawks or doves, the answer is "yes." Above all, ***Patton*** remains a character study.

***The Right Stuff* (1983)**

There are a number of films that you can use to show the Cold War and demonstrate the paranoia of the 1950's, but why not focus on one of the seminal events of the period—the launch of sputnik, which triggered the Space Race. This film is great for watching whenever you need a lift about what is right and good about the American spirit. It's an incredibly well written and edited film about a turning point in our history when we began to earnestly reach for the stars.

***All the President's Men* (1976)**

Why cover Watergate when there are so many other choices available? For one thing, Watergate must be regarded as an important turning point in American history—never again will Americans naively regard their political leaders as highly. So, the scandal in a sense destroyed much of our innocence, and pointed out the value of freedom of the press. Another reason is that Pakula's film is an intelligent and finely crafted work. Students will need to take notes to keep up with all the Watergate figures—but so did those of us who attempted to follow the situation as it was happening. Never before did we become as familiar with the White House staff.

**Gentleman's Agreement** - A ground breaking film from the 1940s that unflinchingly attacked the accepted American norm of anti-Semitism. This film succeeds in mostly refraining from preaching while showing the human impact of prejudice as Gregory Peck poses as a Jew and gets shut out by polite society. B&W.

**Tora! Tora! Tora!** - A realistic, detailed look at the dramatic events surrounding the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor from both the Japanese and American perspectives. This American-Japanese co-production features an historically accurate, meticulous recreation of the climactic attack of December 7, 1941.