

LESSON THREE: Nuremberg: Film Review

Subject

History Elective (War Studies or Holocaust Studies)

Purpose of Lesson

The purpose of the lesson is to evaluate the accuracy or inaccuracy of the film, *Nuremberg* using transcripts from the military tribunal.

Goals for Student Learning

- The students will gain an understanding of how Hollywood films may embellish the truth for the purposes of entertainment.
- The students will develop an understanding of how to use original documents to evaluate film.

What Students will do to Build Their Understanding

- The students will evaluate *Nuremberg* to determine its accuracy and credibility as a resource for Holocaust study.
- The students will analyze original transcripts from the military tribunal in order to use them as an evaluation tool for the film.
- The students will write their conclusions in a review of the film.

State Standards

Kansas

- World History Benchmark 8
Indicators 2 and 3
 - The student engages in historical thinking skills.
 - Develops and implements effective research strategies for investigating a given historical topic.
 - Examines and analyzes primary and secondary sources in order to differentiate between historical facts and historical interpretations.

Missouri

Knowledge Standards

- Communication Arts
Indicators 2,3,4 and 5
 - In Communication Arts, students in Missouri public schools will acquire a solid foundation which includes knowledge of and proficiency in
 - reading and evaluating fiction, poetry, and drama
 - reading and evaluating nonfiction works and material
 - writing formally and informally
 - comprehending and evaluating the content and artistic aspects of oral and visual presentations

Resources and Handouts: Specific Resources

- ◆ Film: *Nuremberg* (Alec Baldwin)
- ◆ Stave and Palmer. Witnesses to Nuremberg: An Oral History of American Participants at the War Crimes Trials, Twayne Publishers, New York, NY, 1998.

- ◆ Overy, Richard. Interrogations: The Nazi Elite in Allied Hands, 1945, Penguin Books, New York, NY, 2001.
- ◆ Taylor, Telford. The Anatomy of the Nuremberg Trials, Little, Brown & Company, United States, 1992.
- ◆ Computers with Internet Access
- ◆ Nuremberg Film Review assignment sheet.

Resources and Handouts: Material for Students

- ◆ Assignment sheet *Nuremberg Film Review*
- ◆ Computers with Internet Access
- ◆ The Anatomy of the Nuremberg Trials, Interrogations: The Nazi Elite in Allied Hands, 1945, Witness to Nuremberg: An Oral History of American Participants at the War Crimes Trial.

Nuremberg Film review

Having watched the film *Nuremberg*, write a 1-2 page review of the film discussing the accuracy of the film. As a basis for determining accuracy you may use original transcript documents found online, the transcripts from Interrogations by Richard Overy, transcripts from The Anatomy of the Nuremberg Trials, by Taylor, The Anatomy of the Nuremberg Trials, and the oral histories found in Witness to Nuremberg by Bruce A. Stave and Michele Palmer.

