

THETR 3620—Film Analysis Assignment

For this assignment you are to analyze a scene from a film with particularly evocative and informative lighting. You may choose to write your analysis as a narrative or in outline format as below, but make sure it is thorough and in depth, containing the following components.

I. THE FILM

- A. Intellectual**—In one or two sentences, what is the story of the film? Do not confuse the story, which is the overarching narrative with its thematic and emotional implications, with the plot, which is the series of events that drive the story.
- B. Emotional**—How is the film meant to impact the audience? How does it affect you individually? What is the emotional arc of the film and how is it used to create the overall impact?
- C. Physical**—What is the visual style of the film and how does this style help communicate the story and impact? What visual imagery and/or metaphors are at work in the film?

II. THE SCENE

- A. Intellectual**—Outline the specifics of the given circumstances of the scene. What information is imparted that the lighting may affect? Details as to time, place, season, weather, socio-economic conditions, etc. should be noted.
- B. Emotional**—What is the impact of this particular scene and how does it fit into the larger emotional arc of the film as you have described it?
- C. Physical**—Discuss the particulars of the visual/ compositional components of the scene and how they work in concert or in contrast to the overall visual style of the piece. How does the visual composition help communicate the story and impact?

III. THE LIGHTING

For each of the six controllable qualities of light give a short description of the conditions of that quality in the scene with particular attention to any dynamics within the scene. Then describe how the particulars of that quality are contributing to the intellectual, emotional, and physical meaning of the scene and the film as you have outlined above.

Document two of the lighting conditions in your scene with a moment sheet showing direction, color, and relative brightness of the primary figure or figures in the shot.

Use this moment sheet to realize two lighting conditions from the scene in the light lab.