

Assignment: Movies in Management
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Course: MGT 458
Title: Decision Making and Creativity (3 units)

“All children are artists. The problem is how to remain an artist once the child grows up.”
--Pablo Picasso (1881-1973)

Goal

The purposes of this assignment are as follows:

- To view, comprehend, and analyze a movie
- To draw analogies and develop insights useful in an organizational context
- To help foster strong, rich teamwork

Instructions

In general, your task is to evaluate a few themes related to a movie and generate a written deliverable. The movie can be a current movie or an older movie. Both team composition and selection of a movie will be done relatively early in the semester. Each person in each team must contribute both to the analysis and to the writing. The written deliverable must be printed and delivered to the instructor at the beginning of class on the due date. The written deliverable must also be submitted to Moodle no later than 1 hour before the beginning of class on that day.

Deliverable

The due date is listed on the course outline. Before that due date, there should be enough time in or out of class to go over any questions you may have.

Length

The written deliverable must be no less than 6 pages and no more than 9 pages (not including the cover page or references). Teams can use pictures from the movie as needed. There must be at least one diagram in the written deliverable. Teams can include an appendix as needed.

Scoring

There will be 100 points allocated for breadth and depth of content. There will be 100 points allocated language use and grammar.

Content

There is no single, best approach to achieve the objectives of this assignment. In general, this assignment combines ideas from several general education, lower-division core, and upper division courses. However, the following outline is provided as a working guide to help students structure and sequence their ideas into a coherent package.

- Cover page including Team Number and all the names of the Team Members
- Describe why the team selected this movie (and perhaps why others were discarded).
- Movie Synopsis (include any of the following ideas to the extent they are material)
 - Elementary Literary Ideas—(e.g., [Character](#), [Plot](#), [Setting](#), [Style](#), [Theme](#))
 - Intermediate Literary Ideas—(e.g., [Analogy](#), [Antagonist](#), [Conflict](#), [Diction](#), [Humor](#), [Imagination](#), [Protagonist](#), [Soliloquy](#), [Symbol](#), [Transition](#))
 - Advanced Literary Ideas—(e.g., [Irony](#), [Sarcasm](#))
- Scenario/Theme #1
 - Describe the situation and setup the context
 - What theory/model/framework from *decision-making* can be used to explain or predict the outcome of the scenario or the impact of the theme?
 - What theory/model/framework from *creativity* can be used to explain or predict the outcome of the scenario or the impact of the theme?
- Scenario/Theme #2
 - Describe the situation and setup the context
 - What theory/model/framework from *decision-making* (different from Scenario/Theme #1) can be used to explain or predict the outcome of the scenario or the impact of the theme?
 - What theory/model/framework from *creativity* (again, different from Scenario/Theme #1) can be used to explain or predict the outcome of the scenario or the impact of the theme?
- Current Event
 - describe a current, substantive organizational event from the world of business,
 - draw an analogy between the current event and one of the above scenarios/themes,
 - show how your analysis could be used to explain or predict the outcome of the current event, and
 - describe how the use of your team's analysis of this movie complements a core idea from MGT 360 (Principles of Management and Organizational Behavior).
- Describe any limitations of your Analysis; Provide any Concluding Thoughts
- References (or “Works Cited”)

Movie

Each team will select (with my approval) their own movie. I'll ask for the names of the movies early in the semester in order to eliminate any duplicates.

Sources for Articles (current events)

The sources for the articles for this class will be drawn from the following set:

- Newspapers (Dailies)
 - Los Angeles Times
 - New York Times
 - Wall Street Journal
 - Financial Times

- Magazines (Weeklies or Monthlies)
 - The Economist
 - Newsweek
 - BusinessWeek
 - Atlantic
 - Harper's
 - The New Yorker

The current event can be anything of interest during the time period that the students in the each team have been in college. Also, the current event should be substantial enough so that more than a single article has been written about it.