

Film Study

Summer Reading Assignment 2024

You must complete BOTH tasks!

Task 1:

**Read and annotate *Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail* Cheryl Strayed
ISBN-13: 978-0307476074**

Annotation Advice:

There are many ways to interact with a text. Consider asking a lot of questions, defining words you don't know, making personal connections, and commenting on language that you find beautiful, challenging, or confusing. Find a way to balance your annotations with your enjoyment of the reading.

Guiding Questions:

Please consider the questions below as you read. Select quotes that speak to each of the questions (if applicable) and be prepared to write an in-class essay on the memoir using these quotes upon your return to school.

1. What events lead Cheryl to embark on her journey?
2. In what way(s) is Cheryl changed by her time in the wilderness? What does the wilderness teach her?
3. Does Cheryl's story conform to the archetypal Hero's Journey and a three-act story structure? If so, what steps of the journey can you identify in the memoir, and when do each of the three acts begin and end?
4. Visualize three scenes and be prepared to discuss how you would approach filming them if you were directing a film adaptation of the memoir. What creative choices would you make to bring the text to life?
5. Choose three moments from the book that resonate with you. Can you relate at all to Cheryl's struggles and successes? Which parts of her story are universal and fundamentally human?
6. Lastly, please look for inspiration this summer for the film you would like to make. The earlier you craft an idea, the easier the process of creating your film will be. Write down three ideas for stories that you might like to tell and be prepared to share these with me on the first day of school.

Book Information:

Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail is available on Amazon and other online/in-store locations. You are responsible for purchasing the book on your own.

Please finish reading and annotating ***Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail*** before the first day of school and bring your book to your first English class.

Task 2:

Purchase or rent the ebook for *Understanding Movies 14th Edition* by Louis Giannetti

ASIN : B074V68X5N

Publisher : Pearson; 14th edition (August 10, 2017)

1. Create a short Google Slides presentation (5-10 slides/not exceeding 5 minutes) highlighting your favorite film as well as explaining what makes it great.
2. Consider aspects such as the cinematography, music/sound, acting, direction, writing, etc. when crafting your presentation and please be as detailed as possible, pointing to specific instances from the film.
3. You should be ready to present on your first day of class.

Synopsis of *Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail* (from amazon.com):

At twenty-two, Cheryl Strayed thought she had lost everything. In the wake of her mother's death, her family scattered and her own marriage was soon destroyed. Four years later, with nothing more to lose, she made the most impulsive decision of her life. With no experience or training, driven only by blind will, she would hike more than a thousand miles of the Pacific Crest Trail from the Mojave Desert through California and Oregon to Washington State—and she would do it alone.

Told with suspense and style, sparkling with warmth and humor, *Wild* powerfully captures the terrors and pleasures of one young woman forging ahead against all odds on a journey that maddened, strengthened, and ultimately healed her.

Synopsis of *Understanding Movies 14th Edition* (from amazon.com):

Understanding Movies provides valuable insight into the language of film and how meaning is conveyed to audiences. Author Louis Giannetti engages students in the fascinating language systems and techniques of film and helps further their appreciation and understanding of why and how movie watchers respond as they do to different films. Building upon the visually engaging and accessible presentation of previous editions, the **Fourteenth Edition** adds updated photos, new content on the latest cinematic trends, and coverage of recent films to provide students a new way of looking at films that are familiar to them.

Have a Good Summer! I look forward to an inspiring year!