Projects I & II Topic Selection

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The topics of Projects I (Summary Of and Response To A Scholarly Article) and II (Rhetorical Analysis of a Film Trailer) will be linked. You will choose a topic from the list below – each topic contains a scholarly article and a film (or several films). You will read the article for Project I and select a trailer to analyze for Project II. The reason that the topics must be linked is so that:

(1) you maintain continuity between the two units

(2) you will be able to use a trailer that can be analyzed for Project II (some movie

trailers are not appropriate for this assignment)

(3) you will have a resource on hand for Project II. The article that you read will give you one possible interpretation of the film and will give you a lens through which you could look at the trailer. (In other words, do you see the argument, or points of the argument, appearing in the trailer?)

You are, of course, more than welcome to move beyond this list and come up with your own topics. If you choose to do this, you must (1) select a film trailer of appropriate length (theatrical, not teaser trailer), (2) find at least 2 articles that deal with a similar topic as your film trailer, and (3) meet with me to discuss your topic choice. (Articles vary in both length and complexity of argument, and choosing an extremely long article or one which deals with more difficult concepts will make Project I much more difficult than it is intended to be.)

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* Topic #1: FACEBOOK
  + Article: Eberhardt, David M. “Facing Up To Facebook.” *About Campus* 12.4 (Sept. 2007): 18-26. Web.
  + Film: *The Social Network*
  + Key Terms: Facebook, Social Media, College Students, Universities
* Topic #2: COFFEE
  + Article: Ruzich, Constance M. “For the Love of Joe: The Language of Starbucks.” *The Journal of Popular Culture* 41.3 (May 2008): 428-442. Web.
  + Film: *Black Gold* (2006) (documentary)
  + Key Terms: Coffee, Starbucks, Ad campaigns, Profits, Fair-Trade
* Topic #3: THE LORD OF THE RINGS
  + Article: Hunt, Arthur W. “Back to the Shire: From English Village to Global Village and Back Again.” *Modern Age* 51.3 (June 2009): 211-218.
  + Film: *The Fellowship of the Ring*, *The Two Towers*, *The Return of the King*
  + Key Terms: Village communities, Agrarian, Economics, Country Life, Farm Life
* Topic #4: HARRY POTTER
  + Article: Natov, Roni. “Harry Potter and the Extraordinariness of the Ordinary.” *The Lion and the Unicorn* 25.2 (Apr. 2001): 310-327.
  + Film: Any of the *Harry Potter* films
  + Key Terms: Harry Potter, Child Heroes, Normalcy, Real Life, Magic, Wonder of Ordinary Life, Childhood, Growing Up
* Topic #5: THE TWILIGHT SAGA
  + Article: Silver, Anna. “Twilight Is Not Good For Maidens: Gender, Sexuality, and the Family in Stephenie Meyer’s *Twilight Saga*. “ *Studies in the Novel* 42.1 (Spring/Summer 2010): 121-138.
  + Film: *Twilight, New Moon* OR *Eclipse*
  + Key Terms: Gender roles, Family, Sexuality, Role Models, Feminism
* Topic #6: DISNEY’S FAIRY TALES
  + Article: Lester, Neal A. “Disney’s The Princess and the Frog: The Pride, The Pressure, and the Politics of Being a First.” *Journal of American Culture* 33.4 (2010): 294-308.
  + Film: Disney’s *Tangled* or Disney’s *The Princess and the Frog*
  + Key Terms: Fairy Tales, Cultural Values, Marketing, Racial Identity, White Supremacists
* Topic #7: SUPERHEROES
  + Article: Hughes, Jamie A. “’Who Watches the Watchmen?: Ideology and ‘Real World’ Superheroes.” *Journal of Popular Culture* 39.4 (Jul. 2006): 546-557.
  + Film: *The Dark Knight* (2008), *The Green Lantern* (2011), *The Green Hornet* (2011) or *Watchmen* (2009)
  + Key Terms: Graphic Novels, Popular Culture, Social Trends, Superheroes
  + ALT: Richardson, Niall. “The Gospel According to Spider-Man.” *Journal of Popular Culture* 37.4 (May 2004): 694-703. & *Spiderman* trailer