

James Cameron's *Titanic*

Over the next five classes, we will be viewing James Cameron's 1997 epic blockbuster, *Titanic*. The completion of the movie was quite a feat, especially in terms of visual effects. Cameron's passion for history and his real love for the Titanic story greatly helped in making the film a success, both critically and at the box office.

Similar to our first Star Wars assignment, you are to closely examine the following four aspect groupings as they pertain to the film:

- 1) Images/ Sound/ Camera Work
- 2) Sound Effects/ Soundtrack/ Voices
- 3) Symbolism/ Setting
- 4) Actor Dialogue/ Body Language/ Facial Expression

10 minutes will be given at the end of class each for you to add information to your package. By the end of the film, you should have made thorough notes about each of the aspect groups. Save this packet as you will be using it each day.

Written & Directed by : James Cameron

Cast:

Leonardo DiCaprio; Jack Dawson
Kate Winslet: Rose
Billy Zane: Caledon
Kathy Bates: Molly Brown
Gloria Stuart: Od Rose

Oscar Wins:

Best Art/ Set direction, cinematography, costume design, director, sound effects editing, visual effects, film editing, musical score (James Horner), original song, best picture, best sound (**11 wins**)

Oscar Nods:

Best Actress (Winslet), Supporting Actress (Stuart), Make-up



PLOT

Beginning with genuine footage of the departure of the Titanic on its fateful voyage, this epic movie tells the events of that tragic night from the perspective of fictional survivor Rose. As an old lady of 100, she recounts her story of duty, love and disaster to a salvage crew searching for a lost diamond.

Trivia:

For some wreck interior shots, a set was constructed and submerged.

James Cameron went on the dives to the real Titanic himself, and found it an overwhelming emotional experience to actually see it. He ended up spending more time with the ship than its living passengers did.

June 2008 Ranked #6 on the American Film Institute's list of the 10 greatest films in the genre "Epic".

The scenes during which Thomas Andrews chastises Second Office Charles Lightoller for sending the boats away without filling them to capacity is the only scene in the entire film in which the actors' breath was not digitally added in later.

Images/ Colours/ Camera Work

Topic	What?	When?	Significance?
Images			
Colours			
Camera Work			

Sound Effects/ Soundtrack/ Voices

Topic	What?	When?	Significance?
Sound Effects			
Soundtrack			
Voices			

Symbolism/ Setting

Topic	What?	When?	Significance?
Symbolism			
Setting			

Actor Dialogue/ Body Language/ Facial Expression

Topic	What?	When?	Significance?
Actor Dialogue			
Body Language			
Facial Expressions			

Notes on Characters

Jack Dawson:

Rose DeWitt Bukater

Caledon "Cal" Hockley

Molly Brown