11 APUSH

Mr. Bedar

Civil War Unit

**Civil War Film Review Assignment**

Directions:

Watch one of the films below and write a film review (minimum: 2 pages double-spaced) that addresses all of the following:

* Name of film, leading actors/actresses, director, the date of release, and a brief summary of the plot and setting of the story
* Main point or thesis of the film
* Historical Accuracy – Were the movie characters based on actual people? If so, who were they and were they and were they treated accurately? What is the film’s bias? Where have the filmmakers stretched the story?
* Were there any real events (battles, protests, laws, etc.)? If so, were they historically accurate? If there were no real characters or events, it was probably a conscious decision on the part of the writers and director. Try to analyze why reality was omitted. Use parenthetical citations for any sources you use.
* How does the movie tie into the history we’ve learned in class? What can one learn about the Civil War era from watching this movie?
* Evaluation – Provide an evaluation of the film. Don’t just say “I liked it because it was a good movie” or “I hated it because it was boring.” Examine the strengths and weaknesses of the movie. Which actors did a good job and which were inadequate? Were there places where the plot was weak? If the film was done years ago, would it be done differently now? Why? What would have made the film better? Would you recommend the film to another student? Use examples from the film to support your points.
* Suggestions:
  + Take a brief list of notes while watching the film and back up your ideas with specific examples
  + Don’t watch something you’ve already seen
  + If you’re able to watch it over Dec. break, make it something fun –get some popcorn and watch with your classmates! If you’ll be out of town, watch it before Dec. break.

*\*Glory (1989)*

*Gettysburg (1993)*

*Ride with the Devil (1999)*

*Cold Mountain (2003)*

*\*Lincoln (2012)*

*\*Twelve Years a Slave (2013)* **Due: 1/2/14**