

News Literacy/Spring 2011

EXTRA CREDIT: Movie Project directions

Name:

Instructor and Rec. #:

What you're doing: This is an entirely optional exercise. Watch the 1976 film "All the President's Men" starring Robert Redford and Dustin Hoffman. It is available at several libraries and from movie rental companies.

In about 350 words, relate the movie to the themes we've covered in this course (the power of information, the mission of the press, relationship of the press to government, reporter transparency, the search for truth and verification, etc.). Discuss whether you believe the journalists in the movie acted responsibly and give 2-3 examples why. Describe the conflicting pressures on the journalists to use the information they had or to withhold it for whatever reason.

Also, you must compare and contrast the actions of the journalists in the movie with the actions portrayed in "Shattered Glass."

You'll be graded, as always, on the strength of your argument. State your thesis clearly, provide appropriate evidence from the movie and course materials to support it, and organize your essay in a logical way. Look for vivid examples to illustrate your points.

This is an opportunity to earn 1-4 extra credit points.