



Understanding Movies (12th Edition)

By Louis Giannetti

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Updated in a new 12th edition , this book is organized around the elements of film and provides readers valuable insight into how movies communicate and convey meaning to their audiences.

This book engages readers in the fascinating language of film and helps further their appreciation and understanding of why and how movie watchers respond as they do to different films. From Slumdog Millionaire to Transformers. this book provides readers with a new way of looking at films that are familiar to them through contemporary coverage

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Editorial Review

From the Back Cover

“Understanding Movies is the best text that I have found which covers the essentials of filmmaking in a logical sequence, comprehensively, using a writing style that will delight the most discriminating reader. “

Janine Adkins, Rio Solado College

This **Twelfth Edition** of *Understanding Movies* provides valuable insight into how movies communicate and convey meaning to their audiences through a unique network of language systems and techniques. In a readable, accessible, and sometimes humorous manner, *Understanding Movies* aims to engage you in the fascinating language of film and to help further your own appreciation and understanding of why and how movie watchers respond as they do to different films.

Organized around elements of film, the Twelfth Edition of this market leading text provides you with a new way of looking at familiar films through contemporary coverage and a visually engaging presentation.

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Features of the Twelfth Edition:

- **Fresh coverage of contemporary films genres** such as Animation (*Ratatouille*, *Persepolis*), and Computer Generated Imagery (*Beowulf*, *Ironman*)
- Expanded discussion on how movies provide pleasure with **insight into modern comedies** such as *Talladega Nights*, *Juno*, *SuperBad* and *Tropic Thunder*
- New examination and analysis of the **role of cultural myths in popular culture**
- **Inclusion of ethnically-diverse examples**, such as exemplary coverage of Islamic cinema, introduce you to global cinema and encourage reflection on American film issues

About the Author

Louis Giannetti is a Professor Emeritus of English and Film at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland. He has taught courses in film, literature, writing, drama, and humanities. He has published many articles, both popular and scholarly, on political subjects, literature, and drama. In addition to being a professional film critic for several years, he has written about movies for such scholarly journals as *Literature/Film Quarterly*, *The Western Humanities Review*, and *Film Criticism*. Professor Giannetti is also the author of a book on cinema theory, **GODARD AND OTHERS: Essays on Film Form**, published in both Britain and the United States. Giannetti's other books include **MASTERS OF THE AMERICAN CINEMA** (Prentice Hall, 1981), a survey of American fiction films from the perspective of eighteen key figures. **FLASHBACK: A Brief History of Film, Sixth Edition** (Allyn & Bacon, 2010), written with Scott Eyman, is a history organized by decade outlining the major events, trends, and important filmmakers and their work, with emphasis on the American cinema. Both books are copiously illustrated. **UNDERSTANDING MOVIES** has been a bestselling text in all its previous editions, widely used in the United States and in such countries as Australia, Britain, Singapore, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa, and Japan.

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