

Apocalypto Movie Review

Anthropology 367-011

Spring 2008

DUE: Monday, April 14

The purpose of this assignment is to have students view and evaluate a fictional depiction of Maya society.

Students should view the DVD of Mel Gibson's film Apocalypto, which can be rented at your local video store or watched (but not checked out) in Media Services downstairs in Morris Library (DVD #3562).

After watching the video, students should write a review that follows the outline below with each section consisting of at least one "healthy" paragraph. For full points, students should read at least one review of the film by an archaeologist, cite it appropriately in the text of their paper, and list it in their bibliography.

Review Outline

1. introduction
2. summary of the film's plot
3. the pros of this film for learning about Maya culture (include specific examples)
4. the cons of this film for learning about Maya culture (include specific examples)
5. conclusion with your overall assessment of the film
6. bibliography

This assignment is worth 25 points. The completed paper should be 2-3 pages long. It should be typed, double-spaced with normal margins and font and stapled in the top left corner. Do not add a plastic or cardboard cover. Three points will be deducted from papers that are not stapled.

Papers will be graded on content and writing style. One-half grade notch will be deducted for poor writing. Students are encouraged to visit the university's writing center for assistance in improving the quality of their writing.

Penalty points will be deducted for later papers. The penalty clock will start at the beginning of class on the due date. The penalty will be 3 pts for after class on the due date and 5 pts for each additional day, including the day when the late paper is turned in. Exceptions will be made only if the student has a written excuse from a physician or the health center or has made prior arrangements with the instructor.