

# Film Analysis

**Duration:**

This should be the number of seconds and frames.

**Shot Size:**

Is this a medium shot, medium close-up, close-up, etc.? See your syllabus (last page) for reference.

**Sound:**

What ambient sounds (traffic noises, cricket chirps, dog barks, wind noises, crowd noises) are there? What Foley sounds (footsteps, door slams, etc.) are there? Is there any music? What kind? Is it foreground or background? Any dialogue? If so are the voices angry, happy, shouting, whispering, etc.? How is the space we see represented (hollow - reverb, intimate - warm, etc.)? What is the cumulative feeling or texture of all of the above?

**Screen Quadrant(s):**

<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>
<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>

Use Q1, Q2, Q3, and Q4 left to right top to bottom as frame descriptors throughout your analysis. You do not have to add a specific section for quadrants.

**Contrast Dominant(s):**

What is the point of greatest light against the point of greatest dark? Are there a number of them? Do they direct our attention? How do they direct our attention? Is there a flow through the quadrants? Is the contrast dominant effective here or does movement in the frame capture our attention?

**Character Movement:**

Is there any character movement? In which quadrants? on X, Y or Z axis? Do the characters move relative to each other? Does one move from a dominant to less dominant position? Is there movement toward us or away from us? Do they move toward or away from anything (or person) in the frame? Are they being goal directed?

**Character Proxemics:**

Which way is the main character facing? How do the other characters or surroundings relate to them? Are they close to us but far from others in the frame? Are they at intimate, social, or public distances from others in the frame? Do they have their backs to anyone? Are they hiding anything from us or other characters in the frame? Is there an evolution?

**Camera Movement:**

Is there a dolly in, a pull back, tracking left or right, a stedicam move, a zoom in, a zoom out, a crane or jib move, a pan left, a pan right, a tilt up, a tilt down, a lift, an aerial shot, etc.? If so what does it do to us emotionally?

**Camera Angle:**

Are we at a high angle, low angle, eye level, or what? What does it do to us and our perception of the shot/scene? Is there a dutch tilt? Why does the director choose this perspective? Is there a POV here? If so whose is it?

**Lens Used:**

Are we telephoto (compresses space), wide angle (accentuates movement on Z axis - greater perspective fall off) or normal (50mm in 35mm photography)? What does this choice do to the character in the space/surroundings in which we see them? Why was this lens chosen?

**Depth of Field:**

Are we deep focus, or shallow focus? Is part of the frame in focus and part out? Why? Do we rack focus? Do we follow focus with a character or object in the frame? Why or why not? How does this decision effect the audience?

**Lighting:**

Is there high key lighting or low key lighting or something in between? Where is the light coming from (motivated sources, unmotivated sources, or both)? Is it hard or soft lighting? Is it day or night lighting - and what about it cues us into whether it is day or night? What does the light tell us about the scene and the character?

**Color Usage:**

What colors are used in the frame? Where are they in the frame in relation to each other? Is color used to expand or contract the Z axis (depth)? Is color used to separate or unify parts of the frame? What do the color(s) tell us about the character/situation being depicted?

**Screen Graphics / Composition:**

How do the lens, lighting, depth of field, camera angle, and the use of the X, Y, and Z axes combine into an image? Are there any leading lines? Is the composition balanced or weighted - and in which direction? Is there complexity or simplicity? Are any geometric patterns evident in the frame? If so, do they have a direction? Is there movement (evolution over time)? Is it dynamic? If so how and why? What is the movement of our eyes within the frame over the course of the shot (a function of contrast dominants, character movement, camera movement, depth of field, lighting and color usage).

**Editing Style:**

What are the transitions coming in and out of this shot: straight cuts, dissolves, fades, etc.? Is this shot part of a quick cut sequence, or a longer take sequence? Is the emphasis on editing or mise-en-scène? Is this an A-roll shot (principle talent) or a B-roll shot (a cut in, cut away, insert, etc.)? What is the editing rhythm that's being established here?

**Time:**

How is time being used here? Is it time deletion, time expansion, or real time? Why? How does it relate to the film as a whole?

**Subtext:**

What does all of the above information mean? What emotions or intentions is the director signaling to the audience? Do these signals work? How do they work on us? Do they seem to be intentional? *[This is the place where you put it all together.]*