

5th assignment: Response essay

USE2304, AY2021/2022

Films

1. The Accidental Nation – episode 2 (Main title: The history of Singapore - [videorecording] / produced by Lion Television for Discovery Networks Asia. 2006
2. Diminishing Memories 2005
3. Singapore Dreaming 2006
4. Ilo Ilo 2013
5. 7 Letters 2015

Please imagine that you are a Belgian with **LITTLE** knowledge of the island nation of Singapore. You have watched 5 films about Singapore at a Film Festival: you are told that the first source is a state-approved documentary; the second, a personal account of an important development in an individual's life; the third & fourth, creative feature films by 2 directors; and finally the last, a celebration by 7 leading Singaporean movie directors of the 50th anniversary of Singapore's Independence. Construct an account of the history, society and culture of Singapore concentrating on ***only*** these 5 sources. Your essay should reflect your analysis of ALL the sources; do refer extensively to the content of the films. You can write on any topic that interests you within these limits, but your essay **should preferably not** reflect the influence of any other materials, **including movie reviews**.

Prompts (just SUGGESTIONS) :-

- A. Please identify at least 2 major themes to synthesize the 5 sources.
- B. Some suggestions (you need not follow the suggestions! And you are encouraged to explore your own) :-
 - a. Home: interpretations & perspectives
 - b. Familial relationships, e.g. gender, parental, sibling etc.
 - c. Racial interactions
 - d. State-citizen interactions
 - e. Cultural values
 - f. Modernity, memory, identity, nostalgia.

The due date is Friday, 19 November. Please upload a copy of your completed essay into LUMINUS. Please indicate WORD COUNT. The word count for this essay is 2500-2800.

Your essay will be assessed by TURNITIN for originality.

The preferred font is Times New Roman, 12. The spacing should be 1.5.