

*European Student Forum  
Movie Night*

*Discerning Art*

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***Films are one of the primary forces that shape our culture - and they're fun, too!***

***"... most philosophical investigation and spiritual reflection takes place in the cinema..."***

*Nick Pollard,  
[www.damaris.org](http://www.damaris.org)*

**“Focus: The Art and Soul of Cinema”  
Tony Watkins**

# Questions to ask:

- 1. Initial response*
- 2. Place within the culture?*
- 3. How well has the film been made?*
- 4. Original context*
- 5. What is the genre?*

## Questions to ask:

*6. How is the narrative structured?*

*What is the plot — what happens (in summary)?*

*7. How is meaning created?*

*Mise en scène, Editing, Soundtrack, Titles*

*8. What are the key themes?*

## Questions to ask:

### *9. What is the worldview?*

- a) What is the view of reality?*
- b) What is the view of humanity?*
- c) What is the view of knowledge?*
- d) What is the view of right and wrong?*
- e) What is the fundamental problem confronting all human beings, and what is the solution?*
- f) How well does the worldview measure up?*

## Questions for reflection:

### *10. Truth, error and implications*

- *What resonates with you? Why?*
- *What truth or insight, error or blindness do you find in the film?*
- *Do you see God's image in human beings, human rebellion against God and human longing for God?*
- *How might this film affect viewers?*

TIM  
ROBBINS

MORGAN  
FREEMAN



THE  
SHAWSHANK  
REDEMPTION



# The Shawshank Redemption (1994) 134'

## Tagline:

Fear can hold you prisoner. Hope can set you free.

## Director:

Frank Darabont

## Screenplay:

Frank Darabont, based on a short story by Stephen King

+ Based on Stephen King's 1982 novella

+ Rita Hayworth and Shawshank Redemption

## Starring:

Tim Robbins, Morgan Freeman, Bob Gunton,  
William Sadler, Clancy Brown, Gil Bellows

+ Nominated for 7 Academy Awards

+ IMDB – list of top movies

## Questions for discussion:

- What is the theme?
- Why is hope so important?
- How do Red's parole hearings change?
- Do you see grace in this film?
- Is there hope for a happy ending?
- Hope that all will be well in the end and your work is not in vain?