

Necessary and Contingent Films

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I compiled this running list for the benefit of students and to help me return to my own favorites. The necessary films are films that I consider uniquely successful in their kind. The contingent films range from the superb to the merely re-watchable, but re-watchable is a high bar for me because I don't re-watch easily.

Necessary

<u>8½</u>	Federico Fellini	1963
<u>The Apartment</u>	Billy Wilder	1960
<u>The Apostle</u>	Robert Duvall	1997
<u>L'Avventura</u>	Michelangelo Antonioni	1960
<u>Battleship Potemkin</u>	Sergei Eisenstein	1925
<u>Beauty and the Beast</u>	Jean Cocteau	1946
<u>Children of Paradise</u>	Marcel Carné	1945
<u>Citizen Kane</u>	Orson Welles	1941
<u>A Clockwork Orange</u>	Stanley Kubrick	1971
<u>Day of Wrath</u>	Carl Theodor Dreyer	1943
<u>Dr. Strangelove</u>	Stanley Kubrick	1964
<u>The Godfather</u>	Francis Ford Coppola	1970
<u>The Godfather II</u>	Francis Ford Coppola	1972
<u>The Gospel According to St. Matthew</u>	Pier Paolo Pasolini	1966
<u>Grand Hotel</u>	Edmund Goulding	1932
<u>Grand Illusion</u>	Jean Renoir	1937
<u>Ikiru</u>	Akira Kurosawa	1952
<u>Jean de Florette</u>	Claude Berri	1986
<u>A Man for All Seasons</u>	Fred Zinneman	1966
<u>Manon of the Spring</u>	Claude Berri	1986
<u>Modern Times</u>	Charlie Chaplin	1936
<u>Nights of Cabiria</u>	Federico Fellini	1957

<u>Notorious</u>	Alfred Hitchcock	1946
<u>Ossessione</u>	Luchino Visconti	1943
<u>Persona</u>	Ingmar Bergman	1966
<u>Rashomon</u>	Akira Kurosawa	1950
<u>Roman Holiday</u>	William Wyler	1953
<u>The Rules of the Game</u>	Jean Renoir	1939
<u>Seven Samurai</u>	Akira Kurosawa	1954
<u>La Strada</u>	Federico Fellini	1954
<u>The Third Man</u>	Carol Reed	1949
<u>Tokyo Story</u>	Yasujiro Ozu	1953
<u>The Treasure of the Sierra Madre</u>	John Huston	1948
<u>The Virgin Spring</u>	Ingmar Bergman	1960
<u>Ugetsu</u>	Kenji Mizoguchi	1953
<u>Unforgiven</u>	Clint Eastwood	1992
<u>Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?</u>	Mike Nichols	1966

Contingent

<u>The 400 Blows</u>	François Truffaut	1959
<u>1900</u>	Bernardo Bertolucci	1976
<u>Advise and Consent</u>	Otto Preminger	1962
<u>After Hours</u>	Martin Scorsese	1985
<u>Aguirre: The Wrath of God</u>	Werner Herzog	1972
<u>Aliens</u>	James Cameron	1986
<u>All About Eve</u>	Joseph L. Mankiewicz	1950
<u>Anatomy of a Murder</u>	Otto Preminger	1959
<u>Annie Hall</u>	Woody Allen	1977
<u>The Awful Truth</u>	Leo McCarey	1937
<u>Ballad of a Soldier</u>	Grigori Chukhrai	1959
<u>A Beautiful Mind</u>	Ron Howard	2001
<u>Being There</u>	Hal Ashby	1978
<u>La Bête humaine</u>	Jean Renoir	1938

<u>Boogie Nights</u>	P. T. Anderson	1997
<u>Brazil</u>	Terry Gilliam	1985
<u>Breaker Morant</u>	Bruce Beresford	1978
<u>The Bridge on the River Kwai</u>	David Lean	1957
<u>A Canterbury Tale</u>	Powell & Pressburger	1944
<u>Chinatown</u>	Roman Polanski	1974
<u>A Christmas Carol (Scrooge)</u>	Brian Desmond Hurst	1951
<u>Colonel Redl</u>	István Szabó	1985
<u>Cool Hand Luke</u>	Stuart Rosenberg	1967
<u>The Conformist</u>	Bernardo Bertolucci	1970
<u>Le Crime de Monsieur Lange</u>	Jean Renoir	1936
<u>Crimes and Misdemeanors</u>	Woody Allen	1989
<u>Dazed and Confused</u>	Richard Linklater	1993
<u>The Day of the Jackal</u>	Fred Zinneman	1973
<u>Days of Wine and Roses</u>	Blake Edwards	1962
<u>The Dead</u>	John Huston	1987
<u>The Deerhunter</u>	Michael Cimino	1978
<u>Dirty Harry</u>	Don Siegel	1971
<u>La Dolce Vita</u>	Federico Fellini	1960
<u>The Earrings of Madame de</u>	Max Ophüls	1953
<u>Ed Wood</u>	Tim Burton	1994
<u>Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind</u>	Michel Gondry	2004
<u>The Exorcist</u>	William Friedkin	1973
<u>The Fireman's Ball</u>	Milos Forman	1967
<u>Full Metal Jacket</u>	Stanley Kubrick	1987
<u>Funny Face</u>	Stanley Donen	1957
<u>Ghost World</u>	Terry Zwigoff	2001
<u>The Go-Between</u>	Joseph Losey	1970
<u>The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly</u>	Sergio Leone	1966
<u>Goodfellas</u>	Martin Scorsese	1990
<u>Groundhog Day</u>	Harold Ramis	1993
<u>It Happened One Night</u>	Frank Capra	1934

<u>The Hidden Fortress</u>	Akira Kurosawa	1958
<u>Hud</u>	Martin Ritt	1963
<u>The Human Condition</u>	Masaki Kobayashi	1959
<u>The Hustler</u>	Robert Rossen	1961
<u>I Capture the Castle</u>	Tim Fywell	2002
<u>Il Sorpasso</u>	Dino Risi	1962
<u>In the Heat of the Night</u>	Norman Jewison	1967
<u>It's a Wonderful Life</u>	Frank Capra	1946
<u>Kagemusha</u>	Akira Kurosawa	1978
<u>Kill Bill: Vol. 1</u>	Quentin Tarrantino	2003
<u>Kill Bill: Vol. 2</u>	Quentin Tarrantino	2004
<u>The King of Comedy</u>	Martin Scorsese	1982
<u>The Lady Eve</u>	Preston Sturges	1941
<u>The Last Picture Show</u>	Peter Bogdanovich	1971
<u>The Last Waltz</u>	Martin Scorsese	1978
<u>Lawrence of Arabia</u>	David Lean	1962
<u>Let It Be</u>	Michael Linday-Hogg	1970
<u>Life of Brian</u>	Terry Jones	1978
<u>Lilith</u>	Robert Rossen	1964
<u>Little Miss Sunshine</u>	Jonathan Dayton, Valerie Faris	2003
<u>Long Day's Journey into Night</u>	Sidney Lumet	1962
<u>The Maltese Falcon</u>	John Huston	1941
<u>The Man Who Would Be King</u>	John Huston	1975
<u>McCabe & Mrs. Miller</u>	Robert Altman	1971
<u>Mean Streets</u>	Martin Scorsese	1973
<u>Meet Me in St. Louis</u>	Vincent Minelli	1944
<u>Mr. Deeds Goes to Town</u>	Frank Capra	1936
<u>Mr. Smith Goes to Washington</u>	Frank Capra	1939
<u>Mulholland Dr.</u>	David Lynch	2001
<u>My Summer of Love</u>	Pawel Pawlikowski	2004
<u>The Mystery of Kaspar Hauser</u>	Werner Herzog	1974
<u>Network</u>	Sidney Lumet	1976

<u>Night of the Iguana</u>	John Huston	1964
<u>Nosferatu</u>	F. W. Murnau	1922
<u>That Obscure Object of Desire</u>	Luis Bunuel	1977
<u>One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest</u>	Milos Forman	1975
<u>Ordet</u>	Carl Theodor	1955
<u>L'Oro di Napoli</u>	Vittorio de Sica	1954
<u>Pandora's Box</u>	G. W. Pabst	1929
<u>Paths of Glory</u>	Stanley Kubrick	1957
<u>The Philadelphia Story</u>	George Cukor	1940
<u>The Pianist</u>	Roman Polanski	2001
<u>Pygmalion</u>	Anthony Asquith/Leslie Howard	1938
<u>Raging Bull</u>	Martin Scorsese	1978
<u>Raise the Red Lantern</u>	Yimou Zhang	1991
<u>Ran</u>	Akira Kurasawa	1985
<u>Rebecca</u>	Alfred Hitchcock	1940
<u>Red Beard</u>	Akira Kurasawa	1965
<u>Remains of the Day</u>	James Ivory	1993
<u>Rosemary's Baby</u>	Roman Polanski	1968
<u>Shadow of a Doubt</u>	Alfred Hitchcock	1941
<u>Shoot the Piano Player</u>	François Truffaut	1962
<u>Sleeper</u>	Woody Allen	1973
<u>Some Like It Hot</u>	Billy Wilder	1959
<u>The Sound of Music</u>	Robert Wise	1965
<u>The Story of Qiu Ju</u>	Yimou Zhang	1992
<u>Through a Glass Darkly</u>	Ingmar Bergmann	1961
<u>Trouble in Paradise</u>	Ernst Lubitsch	1932
<u>Sanjuro</u>	Akira Kurasawa	1962
<u>Sansho the Bailiff</u>	Kenji Mizoguchi	1954
<u>Safety Last</u>	Taylor & Newmeyer	1923
<u>Saving Private Ryan</u>	Steven Spielberg	1998
<u>Schindler's List</u>	Steven Spielberg	1993
<u>Sense and Sensibility</u>	Ang Lee	1995

<u>The Shawshank Redemption</u>	Frank Darabont	1994
<u>The Servant</u>	Joseph Losey	1963
<u>The Seventh Seal</u>	Ingmar Bergman	1957
<u>Shane</u>	George Stevens	1953
<u>The Silence of the Lambs</u>	Jonathan Demme	1991
<u>The Sixth Sense</u>	M. Knight Shyamalan	1999
<u>Stand by Me</u>	Rob Reiner	1986
<u>A Streetcar Named Desire</u>	Elia Kazan	1951
<u>Sunrise</u>	F. W. Murnau	1927
<u>Tampopo</u>	Juzo Itami	1985
<u>Taxi Driver</u>	Martin Scorsese	1976
<u>A Taxing Woman</u>	Juzo Itami	1987
<u>The Terminator</u>	James Cameron	1984
<u>This Is Spinal Tap</u>	Rob Reiner	1984
<u>Three Days of the Condor</u>	Sydney Pollack	1975
<u>The Tin Drum</u>	Volker Schlöndorf	1978
<u>Tom Jones</u>	Tony Richardson	1963
<u>The Tree of Life</u>	Terrence Malick	2011
<u>The Verdict</u>	Sidney Lumet	1982
<u>Vertigo</u>	Alfred Hitchcock	1958
<u>War and Peace</u>	Sergei Bondarchuk	1966
<u>The White Sheik</u>	Federico Fellini	1952
<u>Winter's Bone</u>	Debra Granik	2010
<u>The Wizard of Oz</u>	Victor Fleming	1939
<u>Woman in the Dunes</u>	Hiroshi Teshigahara	1964
<u>Woman Under the Influence</u>	John Cassavetes	1974
<u>Yojimbo</u>	Akira Kurasawa	1961
<u>Young Törless</u>	Volker Schlöndorf	1968