Celebrating International Films
International Education Week November 2016

In honor of International Education Week, faculty, staff, students have been invited to share their favorite international films. Find their recommendations listed below.

Alison Stankrauff - Archivist and Associate Librarian

Tampopo (1985) - This is a deeply wonderful movie to watch with many interwoven stories, many layers – including love of food and love of humanity.

April Lidinsky - Associate Professor of Women's and Gender Studies

Mostly Martha (2001) - As a female chef in a male-dominated industry, the conflicted Martha experiences unexpected growth in her professional and personal life in the wake of tragedy and good fortune. A feast of a film!

Chancellor Terry Allison - IU South Bend Chancellor

The Marriage of Maria Braun (1979) - The film is one of Fassbinder’s best films and filled with his trademark melodrama and provocative stylistic techniques. It maps the troubled marriage of Maria and Herman Braun as Maria navigates the initial economic struggles and eventual recovery of postwar Germany.

Chris - General Studies Major, Senior

The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo trilogy (2009-2010) - The trilogy is dark, suspenseful, original, and emotional on multiple levels. The entire trilogy is much better in its native tongue, before Americans got a hold of it and made it just an average crime drama.

Christopher - German Major, Senior

“Good Bye Lenin!” (2003) - This heart-warming film portrays the life and struggles of an East German family just before and after the fall of the Berlin Wall.

Cody Burch - RN, IU South Bend School of Nursing

Julia’s Eyes (2011) - The film shows that how you feel about someone is more important than what you see.

Dora Natella - Associate Professor of Sculpture

Shun Li and the Poet (2012) - A beautiful film by Andrea Segre about immigration and friendship.

Dr. Caren Rossow - Assistant Professor of Nursing

Doctor Zhivago (1965) - This romantic drama set in Russia (though filmed in Spain) from the years just prior to WWI until 1922. It is an intense romance set amidst the Russian Revolution and Civil War. Both the book (by Boris Pasternak) of the same name and the film were banned in Russia. The film has won countless awards and features an all-star cast: Omar Shariff, Julie Christie, Rod Steiger, and Alex Guiness (Star Wars fame). This is a great film to watch on a cold winter day. Make yourself an extra-large bowl of popcorn and cuddle up to a great film from the 1960s.
Eric R. Souther - Assistant Professor of New Media

**Delicatessen (1991)** - Delicatessen is a visually stunning film that is a beautiful look at people and place.

Jeff Luppes - Assistant Professor of German

**The Lives of Others (2006)** - The film offers a fascinating look at the limits of morality in a totalitarian state through the eyes of an East German playwright and the Stasi agent tasked with surveilling him.

Jessica - General Studies Major, Junior

**Spirited Away (2001)** - This is a great family film revolving around a young girl who finds herself in the spirit world and rises to the challenge of rescuing her family.

Jonas - Education Major, Sophomore

**La Vie de Boheme (1992)** - A composer, a playwright, and a painter all try to make a living in modern day Paris, while their finances dwindle, and loves are won and lost.

Jonathan Nashel - Professor of History

**A Hard Day's Night (1964)** - This is the first Beatles movie and it is a blast. You can feel their energy, humor, smarts, and sheer fun. At the time of its release, Beatlemania was sweeping the nation and you can see why in this film.

Jorge Muñiz - Associate Professor of Music, Composition and Theory

**Abre los ojos (Open Your Eyes) (1997)** - This Spanish thriller, directed and written by Alejandro Amenábar is one of the most prominent Spanish directors of the new generation. It features Eduardo Noriega and Penelope Cruz on a twisted journey through dream and reality. A few years later, the film was remade as “Vanilla Sky” in the United States with Tom Cruise and Penelope Cruz.

Kevin Hernandez - IU South Bend Student

**Pan's Labyrinth (2006)** - The film takes place a couple of years after the Spanish Civil War during the fascist regime of Francisco Franco and features strong elements of dark fantasy and surrealism.

**Rudo y Cursi (2009)** - The film tells the story of siblings from a poor town in Mexico who are found by a soccer scout & eventually become top soccer players before fame and fortune tear them apart.

Kyoko Takanashi, PhD - Associate Professor of English and Campus Coordinator for Reimagining the First Year

Mary - English Major, Senior

**Howl’s Moving Castle (2004)** - A film by the esteemed director Hayao Miyazaki and adapted from Dianna Wynn Jones’ children's novel of the same name, this gorgeously-animated film follows a girl who is cursed to become an old woman and seeks out help from the enigmatic wizard Howl.

Monika Lynker - Professor of Physics

**Guten Tag, Ramón (2015)** - It is a somewhat unrealistic but touching story of a young Mexican immigrant and a German retiree who takes him in.

Raven Miller - Anthropology and Spanish Major

**Los Diarios de Motocicleta (The Motorcycle Diaries) (2004)** - The movie is inspiring and captivating as it follows two friends on their trip from Brazil to Peru and the injustices they find along the way.

Shawn Nichols Boyle - Senior Lecturer, English

**Sing Street (2016)** - Set in 1980's Dublin, Sing Street follows a group of high school students forming their own rock band (to impress a girl) and finding their own voices & passion along the way. Filmed entirely in Ireland with an all Irish cast & original music, this hilarious & touching movie offers a genuine glimpse into modern Ireland and is guaranteed to leave you smiling.

Sheehan Probst - IU South Bend Student

**La Vita E Bella (Life is Beautiful) (1998)** - Every day we should stop and appreciate life and how beautiful it is, and this movie communicates that message in a very impactful and powerful way.

Solaiman Fazel - Department of Sociology & Anthropology

**A Separation (2011)** - This film won the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film in 2012, becoming the first Iranian drama film to win the award.

Sophia Sokna Zovich – IU South Bend Student

**Central Station (1998)** - Central Station is a Portuguese movie, I really like it because it shows the ultimate sacrifice, which is letting go of the ones you love to give them the best life they could possibly have.

Yuri Obata - Associate Professor of Communication Studies

**Castle of Sand (1975)** - This is a Japanese film based on the same titled detective novel by Matsumoto Seicho. It portrays the struggle of a father and his son who encountered the unexpected twist of fate during the chaotic postwar period in Japan.

Harry Vasilopoulos, M.Sc. - Lecturer, Department of Management: Judd Leighton School of Business and Economics

**Eleni (1985)** - Eleni is based on the gripping true story of New York Times reporter, Nicholas Gage (John Malkovich), who returns to Greece in the early 80s as a successful reporter to
investigate the brutal execution of his mother by Communist Guerillas in 1947, during the civil war that broke out in Greece after the fall of Nazi Germany.

**Nicholas Strub – IU South Bend Student**

Rec (2007) - A film produced in Spain is a zombie-style horror that was developed as a found footage documentary with an American adaptation, Quarantine.

**Students in C190 Introduction to Film Studies**

Spirited Away (2001) - A young girl, Chihiro, must rescue her family before they're permanently transformed into pigs in this film by the master of animation, Japanese director Hayao Miyozaki.

**Students in C293 History of the Motion Picture**

1) La Misma Luna (2007) - Nine-year-old Carlitos, in Mexico, and his mother, Rosario, working in the United States, can see the same moon from different countries as they struggle to be reunited in this film by Mexican director Patricia Riggen.

2) Let The Right One In (2008) - In this Swedish horror film, a young boy is tormented by bullies until he meets a strange young girl with supernatural powers.