

PRESS PLAY > GLOBALIZING YOUR CLASSROOM THROUGH FILM

General Resources

7 Free Short Films About Refugees Recommended by Human Rights Educators, Camille Roch, Amnesty International

Short films and videos can be useful conversation starters for teachers, educators, facilitators or anyone wishing to learn more about human rights. Here are seven freely available videos on the reality of life as a refugee, ranging from one to 16 minutes in length recommended by Amnesty International's human rights education network.

<https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/education/2016/03/seven-free-short-films-about-refugees-recommended-by-human-rights-educators/>

Cinema/Chicago – Education Screening Program and Study Guides

In addition to hosting the Chicago International Film Festival, international screenings programs, student film councils, and programs for youth filmmakers, Cinema/Chicago also offers free screenings to Chicago Public School students and educators, providing access to international, documentary, short, and local films.

<https://www.chicagofilmfestival.com/education/screenings-study-guides/>

Edutopia

As part of an educational foundation dedicated to transforming K-12 education so that all students can acquire and effectively apply knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to thrive in their studies, careers, and adult lives, Edutopia has specific resources and articles related to teaching with film.

<http://edutopia.org>

- “Film as a Great Motivator,” Mark Phillips, July 30, 2012
<https://www.edutopia.org/blog/power-of-visual-media-mark-phillips>
- “5-Minute Film Festival: Developing Global Citizens,” Ashley Cronin, November 7, 2014
<https://www.edutopia.org/blog/film-festival-global-education-citizenship-resources>
- “Using Film to Teach Analysis Skills,” Heather Wolpert-Gawson, February 9, 2015
<https://www.edutopia.org/blog/using-film-teach-analysis-skills-heather-wolpert-gawron>
- “7 Teaching Resources on Film Literacy,” Matt Davis, updated February 17, 2016
<https://www.edutopia.org/blog/academy-awards-film-literacy-resources-matthew-davis>
- “5-Minute Film Festival: Getting Started with Classroom Apps,” Keyana Stevens and Amy Erin Borovoy, March 25, 2016
<https://www.edutopia.org/film-fest-classroom-apps>

Facets

Facets connects people annually to independent ideas through film. Field trips and in-school sessions introduce students to diverse, global perspectives with films from their Chicago International Children's Film Festival. Summer camps, school workshops, and professional development opportunities also available.

<http://www.facets.org>

Film Education

Website promotes and supports the use of film within the curriculum. You can search for site for country specific films with study guides and activities.

<http://www.filmeducation.org/index.php>

Film Studies, Collaborative Education with a Purpose

Film Studies is a collaboratively written website designed to be used as an introductory textbook in undergraduate courses. Because of the Creative Commons License under which the text is being released, educators will be able to distribute print copies of the *Film Studies* materials to their students. Educators can also encourage their students to participate in the collaborative process on which the website is based. Site includes Lesson Plans to International Courses with Film.

<http://filmstudies.info/index.html>

<http://filmstudies.info/teaching/index.html>

Gene Siskel Film Center (GSFC)

As the public program of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC), GSFC exhibits a range of carefully curated film art and educates the audience, setting film in an historical and cultural context through courses, lectures, panel discussions, and publication, and through research and collections. GSFC regularly hosts international film festivals. They also have student group discounts, opportunities for educators to arrange a private film screening, and monthly school screenings series.

<https://www.siskelfilmcenter.org/schools> and <https://www.siskelfilmcenter.org>

Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center

Website includes dedicated section FOR EDUCATORS which includes video resources, information about field trips, student contests, student leadership programs, teacher training, teacher training trunks, the circle of life program, and other resource links.

<https://www.ilholocaustmuseum.org/pages/for-educators/>

IWitness

IWitness is an educational website developed by USC Shoah Foundation – The Institute for Visual History and Education that provides access to more than 1,500 full life histories, testimonies of survivors and witnesses to the Holocaust and other genocides for guided exploration. IWitness brings the human stories of the Institute's Visual History Archive to secondary school teachers and their students via engaging multimedia-learning activities. Designed to be participatory, academic and student-driven, IWitness addresses education standards from the Common Core State Standards Initiative (United States) and the International Society for Technology in Education, among others.

<https://iwatch.usc.edu/SFI/>

Jewish Foundation for the Righteous

The Jewish Foundation for the Righteous provides financial support to aged and needy non-Jews who rescued Jews during the Holocaust and preserves their legacy through a national education program.

<https://jfr.org/>

PBS Learning Media

WTTW and PBS have curated FREE, standards-aligned videos, interactives, lesson plans and more for Illinois educators.

<https://illinois.pbslearningmedia.org>

Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting

An innovative award-winning non-profit journalism organization dedicated to supporting in-depth engagement with underreported global affairs with a unique program of outreach and education to bring pressing international issues, and the journalists who cover them, into the classroom. Website includes a section devoted to free, K-12 lesson plans and university level curricula that include multi-media resources to help educators engage students with global issues.

<http://pulitzercenter.org/education>

Take a Stand Center

This inspiring video featuring Chicagoan and spoken word poet Harold Green, is featured in Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center's "Take a Stand Center," a breakthrough exhibition that leads visitors from Knowledge to Inspiration to Action, with three interactive galleries: the Abe & Ida Cooper Survivor Stories Experience, Goodman Upstander Gallery, and Take a Stand Lab.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fd1j_DGYfq8 and <https://www.ilholocaustmuseum.org/tas/>

Teaching Introduction to International Politics with Film, Brandon Valeriano, University of Glasgow, *Journal of Political Science Education*, 9:52-72, 2013.

Overview of a comprehensive film-based course that covers basic topics appropriate for an introduction to international relations or world politics. Showcases how films can provide important educational lessons to guide course content. Course focuses on the topics of conflict, peace, and theories of international interactions, but other educators could adapt the content to meet their pedagogical or ideological needs.

http://www.brandonvaleriano.com/uploads/8/1/7/3/81735138/teaching_international_relations_with_film_valeriano_psje.pdf

Resources on East Asian Film

Asia for Educators by Columbia University

An online resource for Asian history and culture featuring many videos hosted by Robert Oxnam, China scholar and President Emeritus of the Asia Society New York. <http://afe.easia.columbia.edu/at/>

Asian Art Museum (Chong-Moon Lee Center for Asian Art and Culture, San Francisco, CA)

Lesson plans and activities, artworks, videos, and background information on Asia produced by the Asian Art Museum.

<http://education.asianart.org/>

Asian Educational Media Service (AEMS)

AEMS helps educators find multi-media resources for teaching about Asia in order to promote understanding of Asian cultures and peoples. Includes AEMS Database, News & Reviews (free on-line newsletter), Media Production Group (Japan), Digital Asia (documentary excerpts with curricular materials), recommended media resources, and lesson plans.

<http://www.aems.illinois.edu/index.html>

<http://www.aems.illinois.edu/aemsdatabase/index.html>

<http://www.aems.illinois.edu/publications/newsletters/newsletters.html>

<http://www.aems.illinois.edu/mpg/index.html>

<https://www.digitalasia.illinois.edu>

<http://www.aems.illinois.edu/lessonplans.html>

Bullfrog Films

Leading source of educational films – DVDs and streaming – on environmental and related social justice issues. Films on China and Japan available with synopses, reviews, guides, grade level info, and additional links to film websites and resources.

<http://www.bullfrogfilms.com/subjects/china.html>

<http://www.bullfrogfilms.com/subjects/japan.html>

Center for Global Education at the Asia Society

Extensive section in *Educator Resources* on Teaching for Global Understanding which includes specific materials as background reading on Asia that can supplement any video classroom presentations.

<https://asiasociety.org/education/background-reading-asia>

Choices Program by Brown University

The Choices Program develops curricula on current and historical international and public policy issues and offer professional development for educators. The website features various video lessons on China, Japan and Korea. <http://www.choices.edu/>

Cinemaholic

Great starting points, by no means definitive or exhaustive, of highly regarded Chinese, Japanese and Korean cinema. You can search for specific genres and other countries as well. Use in combination with IMDb.com to get more detailed film synopses.

- “30 Best Chinese Movies of All Time,” Akhilesh Chakravartula, November 1, 2018
<https://www.thecinmaholic.com/chinese-movies/>
- “100 Best Japanese Movies of All Time,” Mark Woollon, May 15, 2018
<https://www.thecinmaholic.com/japanese-movies/>
- “22 Best Korean Movies of All Time,” Mohamed Uzair, July 13, 2018
<https://www.thecinmaholic.com/best-korean-movies-of-all-time/>

Crash Course on Asia

A YouTube playlist compiled by National Consortium for Teaching about Asia (NCTA) of Asia-related content from Crash Course’s World History YouTube series.

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLF_p2WIMS4DpSPjmSHwqvikX14--YBtr9

Expanding East Asian Studies Program (ExEAS)

Website presents innovative courses and teaching materials, including those related to film, that incorporate the study of East Asia in broad thematic, transnational, and interdisciplinary contexts and provides models for incorporating East Asia into general education, disciplinary, and survey courses in undergraduate curricula.

<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/weai/exeas/teaching-materials.html>

<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/weai/exeas/resources/category-film.html>

<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/weai/exeas/syllabi/category-film.html>

Khan Academy

Khan Academy’s Art of Asia lesson plan compiles many resources from the aforementioned Asian Art Museum website. However, it is presented in a more user-friendly format.

<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/art-asia>

National Consortium for Teaching about Asia (NCTA)

“Class Apps” are short classroom-applicable video presentations available from NCTA. Each “App” focuses on a timely topic or “best practice” presented by an NCTA consulting scholar, seminar leader, teacher alum, or author.

<http://nctasia.org/resources/class-apps/>

School of Life on Eastern Philosophy

A YouTube playlist of the School of Life’s Eastern Philosophy series. The School of Life is a global organization devoted to developing emotional intelligence.

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLwxNMb28XmpeUL1vz9Su7OmeghBDgmj7X>

University of Chicago Center for East Asian Studies (CEAS) Film Library

The CEAS Film Library is one of the largest East Asian DVD collections in the United States, comprising over 7,000 titles from China, Japan, and Korea. It includes historical films, documentaries, television series and contemporary cinema. Many of the films are imported from overseas and are difficult to find in the United States. K-16 educators may borrow films for free for educational use in the classroom.

<http://ceas.uchicago.edu/page/film-library>

Resources on East European, Russian and Eurasian Film

CEERES Outreach Library

The Center for East European and Russian/Eurasian Studies at the University of Chicago maintains a library of literature and films that may be lent out for educational use. A full list of books and films may be found at:

<https://ceeres.uchicago.edu/outreach-library>

Results may be filtered by media type and region/language.

CEERES also maintains a list of online multimedia resources at:

<http://ceeres.uchicago.edu/online-resources>

CEERES occasionally interviews filmmakers from throughout the region. Some examples include the following:

On Czech animator Karel Zeman: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nN_PU2JVZqM

Mila Turajlić (focuses on former Yugoslavia): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qpaMjiciwvw>

Cinema Guides by Country/Region

Online guides can be a good starting point in selecting films that may have relevance to your courses. The following list, which is by no means exhaustive, are some suggestions:

<https://www.local-life.com/prague/articles/czech-cinema>

<https://culture.pl/en/article/a-foreigners-guide-to-polish-cinema>

<https://waytorussia.net/WhatIsRussia/Russian-Cinema-Movies-Video.html>

<https://theculturetrip.com/europe/bosnia-herzegovina/articles/10-bosnian-films-you-need-to-see-before-you-go/>

<https://theculturetrip.com/europe/serbia/articles/11-iconic-serbian-films-you-need-to-watch-before-you-go/>

<https://www.theguideistanbul.com/turkish-cinema/>

Baltic States cinema: <https://www.imdb.com/list/ls040269259/>

<https://mubi.com/lists/the-fabulous-world-of-eastern-european-cinema>

Romania: <https://lucian.uchicago.edu/blogs/eastfromchicago/2018/03/30/interview-with-lenuta-giukin-on-the-romanian-new-wave/>

Mosfilms

Mosfilms is an online repository of Soviet and Russian cinema. Their YouTube channel features many full-length films, some of which include English subtitles. Films with titles in English typically are the ones with said subtitles.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/mosfilm>

Calvert Journal

The mission of Calvert 22 is to build opportunity for emerging talent in the creative economy of the New East (Eastern Europe, the Balkans, Russia and Central Asia), by showcasing the contemporary art and culture of the region and deepening knowledge through in-depth research and analysis.

<https://www.calvertjournal.com/>

Strangers At Home

Storytellers throughout Europe are documenting the growing feelings of xenophobia in their own countries. Strangers at Home features short films by a range of talented people in Europe – filmmakers, writers, cartoonists, musicians, scholars, as well as average citizens.

<http://strangers.globalreportingcentre.org/>

Resources on Latin American Film

Bringing Latin America to Life with Films in the Classroom,” Harry E. Vanden, *Social Education*, May/June 2007

An article for the magazine of the National Council for the Social Studies about how films and videos allow students to explore Latin American reality while prompting classroom discussions that deepen their understanding.

<https://www.socialstudies.org/publications/socialeducation/may-june2007/bringing-latin-america-to-life-with-films-in-the-classroom>

Cinegogía

Cinegogía is an open-access website devoted to the teaching and study of Latin American cinema. This collaborative project is comprised of syllabi, film guides, course materials, a film database and links to other resources. Resources are in English and Spanish.

<https://cinegogia.omeka.net/>

Film Guides, Latin American & Iberian Institute, University of New Mexico

Lesson plans and activities produced by the Latin American & Iberian Institute for *Which Way Home* (2009), *Who is Dayani Cristal?*, (2013) *También la Lluvia* (2010), and *Pelo Malo* (2013).

<https://laii.unm.edu/info/k-12-educators/curriculum/film-guides.html>

“The Ultimate List of Movies to Show in Spanish Class,” *Secondary Spanish Space*, May 16, 2017

A Spanish teacher’s annotated list of films to show in middle school, high school, and postsecondary Spanish classes.

<https://www.secondaryspanishspace.com/2017/05/the-ultimate-list-of-movies-to-show-in.html>

“Latin America at the Movies,” web supplement for the 8th edition of *Modern Latin America*, Brown University

Modern Latin America is a go-to text for teaching Latin American history at the postsecondary level. This page includes a short, annotated lists of feature films and documentaries for 15 Latin American countries.

<https://library.brown.edu/create/modernlatinamerica/chapters/chapter-15-culture-and-society/latin-america-at-the-movies/>

Spanish Film Club, Pragda

Pragda, a Latin American and Spanish film distributor, offers grants twice a year to help high schools and universities bring the very best in contemporary Spanish and Latin American cinema to campuses with the aim of introducing students to the language and cultures of these territories.

<https://pragda.com/spanish-film-club/>

Resources on Middle Eastern and North African Film

Chicago Palestine Film Festival

The Chicago Palestine Film Festival (CPFF) is an independent, not-for-profit 501 c3 status organization, nonsectarian project based in Chicago that exhibits and promotes films by Palestinian directors and films about Palestine. CPFF is dedicated to presenting a film festival that is open, critical, and reflective of the culture, experience and vision of the filmmakers.

<https://palestinefilmfest.com/festival/films/>

Cornell University Library Middle Eastern and North African Cinema & Film Guide

A subject guide providing selected resources and other aggregated information for researching and studying Middle Eastern and North African cinema film. The purpose of this guide is to help users to identify, locate, and access library resources, and online research tools related to Middle Eastern and North African moving-image visual media. For the purposes of Cornell Library's Middle East and Islamic Studies, the geographic areas covered include: Mauritania, Morocco and the Western Sahara, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Egypt, the Sudan, Turkey, Cyprus, Syria, Lebanon, Israel, Palestine, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman, Yemen, Iraq, Iran, and Afghanistan. The guide serves as an introduction to resources available through Cornell University Library, as well as electronic resources available freely online.

<https://guides.library.cornell.edu/MidEastCinema>

Dartmouth College Middle East Film Guide

This guide highlights selected resources for various national cinemas, including films from Middle Eastern and North African countries.

<https://researchguides.dartmouth.edu/nationalcinemas/middleeast>