New Films:

*Hereafter*

Substance abuse & parentification

Schedule:

For the 18th – Short paper - Roles in your own family
For the 30th and Dec 1 – *Death of a Salesman*
Comments:
Better next time if you told us what to study
Some terms I was unsure about
The exam covered everything. Organized great
Liked the test
Exam was slightly tricky
Like video clips
Practice exam very helpful
Exam very fair
In the remaining time I hope we cover:

Big families – there are four kids in my family
Everything left to know
Parts of a family
Adoption and even bizarre families
Substance abusing families – especially alcoholism and hard drugs
How to handle family conflicts
Where future family trends seem to be going
Family relationships today (+5)
Parent child relationships
Class would be better if:
People participated more – your questions are too hard - may discourage people
How therapists are trained to help families
We had one actual textbook – some books lacked helpful info
Keep up with the movies
We discussed our own families
Like discussion and video clips
Less on history (+1)
Good the way it is
More discussion
More video clips (+1)
Perfect
I love our class
I enjoy the structure of class
Films

An American Family
Boyz in the Hood
Real Women Have Curves
People of the Forest
Rachel Getting Married
Interiors
Caretakers & Wounded Birds

Two sides of same coin
  Occasionally switch roles but largely stable
  Often the “weakest” has the most power in the relationship
    Often resents the role of weakest
  “Strongest” often feels helpless and controlled

Both roles are projective
Both roles are functional unless outside forces upset equilibrium of system
Both roles are ways to avoid real intimacy
A legitimate wound can also be illegitimately exploited for advantage
Entirely possible to be a caretaker in one relationship & wounded bird in another
Typical Family Roles

“Gatekeeper”
  “In this family we all...”
  “She’s not a real Johnson....”
  “How could anyone in our family vote for a....”
  “You let them do what!?“

“Protector”
  “This will kill mother”
  “Don’t talk to him like that!”

“Baby”
  “Weakest,” “smallest,” “special”

“Oldest”
  “Leader,” “strongest,” “smartest”
Typical Family Roles

“Victim/Martyr”
  “Why are you so mean to me...”
  “I don’t think I can handle that”
  “It’s the end of the world”

“Caretaker/Rescuer”
  “Things will be fine”
  “I’ll take care of everything”

“Peacemaker”
  “She didn’t mean that”
  “It was an accident”

“Manager”
  “here’s the plan...”

“Cheerleader”
  “Good job...”
Typical Family Roles

“Scapegoat”
  “Failure”
  “Loser”
  “No account”

“Golden Child”
  “Fair haired boy/girl”
  “Star”

“Lost soul”
  Joey
  Lance Loud

“Rebel”
  Kathleen Kennedy
  Hindu woman married to AA Muslim man

“Artist,” “Athlete,” “Butterfly,” “Bad Girl,”
Typical Family Roles

Almost always multiple
  Vary with changing members of the system
  Vary with changing external circumstances
  Often invert and reverse

When dysfunctional, always involve some degree of enmeshment delegation, and/or triangling

Martyr, Rebel, Peacemaker

Golden Child, Peacemaker, Scapegoat
Family Roles in “My Man, Bovanne”

Gatekeeper
Peacemaker
Manager/”Oldest”
Scapegoat
Rebel
Substitution
Role reversal....
Projection
Developmental Stage
  Leaving home
  Active mastery
  Dismemberment followed by Accession