**Comedy**

**The Awful Truth** (1937, Columbia) Directed by Leo McCarey, starring Cary Grant, Irene Dunne and Ralph Bellamy

**Some Like It Hot** (1959, MGM) Directed by Billy Wilder, starring Tony Curtis, Jack Lemmon and Marilyn Monroe

**Soapdish** (1991, Paramount) Directed by Michael Hoffman, starring Sally Field, Kevin Kline, Robert Downey Jr., Cathy Moriarty, Elisabeth Shue, Whoopi Goldberg and Teri Hatcher

**Shaun of the Dead** (2004, Universal) Directed by Edgar Wright starring Simon Pegg and Nick Frost


**Drama**

**Captains Courageous** (1937, MGM) Directed by Victor Fleming, starring Spencer Tracy, Freddie Bartholomew. Lionel Barrymore, Melvyn Douglas, Mickey Rooney


**Touch of Evil** (1958, Universal Pictures) Directed by Orson Welles, starring Orson Welles, Charlton Heston, Janet Leigh.


**One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest** (1975, United Artists) Milos Foreman, starring Jack Nicholson, Louise Fletcher, Danny DeVito and Christopher Lloyd.

**GoodFellas** (1990, Warner Brothers) Directed by Martin Scorsese, starring Ray Liotta, Robert DeNiro, Joe Pesci.

**Musicals**

**42nd Street** (1933, Warner Brothers) Directed by Lloyd Bacon with choreography by Busby Berkley, starring Warner Baxter, Ruby Keeler, BeBe Daniels and George Brent

**Bells are Ringing** (1960, MGM) Directed by Vincente Minnelli, starring Judy Holiday and Dean Martin

**Music Man** (1962, Warner Brothers) Directed by Morton DeCosta with music and book by Meredith Wilson, starring Robert Preston and Shirley Jones

Film List - John Fossett, jfossett@krl.org Kati Irons, kironspiercecountylibrary.org
Cabaret (1972, ABC Pictures) Directed by Bob Fosse with music by Kandor and Ebb, starring Liza Minnelli, Michael York and Joel Grey

Moulin Rouge (2001, Twentieth Century Fox) Directed by Baz Luhrmann, starring Nicole Kidman and Ewan McGregor

Westerns

Stagecoach (1939, United Artists) Directed by John Ford, starring Claire Trevor and John Wayne.

High Noon (1952, United Artists) Directed by Fred Zinnemann, starring Gary Cooper and Grace Kelly.


Science Fiction

La Voyage Dans La Lune (1902, Star Film) Directed by Georges Mielies, starring Georges Mielies (Available on the DVD Landmarks of Early Film 1999 Image Entertainment)

Metropolis (1927, UFA) Directed by Fritz Lang, starring Brigitte Helm, Alfred Abel, Gustav Fröhlich and Rudolf Klein-Rogge

Robot Monster (1953, Three Dimension Pictures) Directed by Phil Tucker starring George Nader, Claudia Barrett and George Barrows

The Day the Earth Stood Still (1951, 20th Century Fox) Directed by Robert Wise starring Patricia Neal and Michael Rennie (Remade in 2008)

Invasion of the Body Snatchers (1956, Allied Artist Pictures) Directed by Don Siegel starring Kevin McCarthy and Dana Wynter (Remade in 1978 and also in 2007 as “The Invasion”)

Film List - John Fossett, jfossett@krl.org Kati Irons, kironspiercecountylibrary.org
Soylent Green (1973 MGM) Directed by Richard Fleischer starring Charlton Heston and Edward G. Robinson


Serenity (2005, Universal) Directed by Joss Whedon, starring Nathan Fillion, Gina Torres, Alan Tudyk, Adam Baldwin, Jewel Staite, Summer Glau and Chiwetel Ejiofor


Adjustment Bureau (2011 Universal Pictures) Directed by George Nolfi, starring Matt Damon, Emily Blunt and Terence Stamp

Blade Runner (1982, Warner Brothers) Directed by Ridley Scott, starring Harrison Ford, Rutger Hauer, Sean Young and Edward James Olmos

Total Recall (1990, TriStar) Directed by Paul Verhoeven, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger, Rachel Ticotin and Sharon Stone


The Adjustment Bureau (2011 Universal Pictures) Directed by George Nolfi, starring Matt Damon and Emily Blunt

Horror

Dracula (1931, Universal Pictures) Directed by Tod Browning, starring Béla Lugosi, Helen Chandler and David Manners

Frankenstein (1931, Universal Pictures) Directed by James Whale, starring Boris Karloff and Colin Clive


The Mummy (1932, Universal Pictures) Directed by Karl Freund, starring Boris Karloff

The Wolfman (1941 Universal Pictures) Directed by George Waggner, starring Lon Chaney, Jr. and Claude Rains

Film List - John Fossett, jfossett@krl.org Kati Irons, kironspiercecountylibrary.org
**Bud Abbott and Lou Costello Meet Frankenstein** (1948) Directed by Charles Barton, starring Bud Abbott, Lou Costello, Lon Chaney Jr. and Bela Lugosi


**Psycho** (1960, Paramount) Directed by Alfred Hitchcock, starring Anthony Perkins, Janet Leigh and Martin Balsam.


The Comedy Glossary or How to Take All the Fun Out of It!

Almost all comedic films can fit into one of the categories below, but most use multiple elements (Black Comedy and Satire, for example)

**Black Comedy** – uses humor to examine a dark or taboo subject. Intent is usually to cause both amusement and discomfort in the audience. (*Fargo, Dr. Strangelove*)

**Buddy Picture** – Any film (not always comedy) that features the relationship of two men (or two women) as the focal point. Comedies often feature the “mismatched” pair (Laurel & Hardy, Oscar Madison & Felix Unger). The term has lately expanded to include films about groups of male friends and, as director Berry Levinson says, “how different things are when guys are with guys then when guys are with women”. (*48 Hours, The 40 Year Old Virgin*)

**Caper Films** – Caper films feature crime or illicit activity but with elements of humor, audacity and unusual amounts of cleverness from the main character. Crimes are usually successful and punishment rarely meted out. Often feature a supporting group of offbeat characters who help commit the crime. (*Oceans 11, To Catch A Thief*)

**Comedy of Errors** – farce driven by mistakes made by foolish characters and the resulting chaos. (*Most sitcoms, The Secret of My Success*)

**Comedy of Manners** – satirizes the manners and affectations of a social class, often using biting wit. Also known as Drawing Room Comedy (*You Can’t Take It With You, My Man Godfrey*)

**Farce** – features extravagant and improbable situations, disguise and mistaken identity. Fast paced plots featuring verbal humor, occasionally laced with sexual innuendo, physical humor, and a deliberate use of the absurd. (*The Pink Panther, Monty Python and the Holy Grail*)

**Noir Comedy** – a subcategory of Film Noir, stylized crime dramas which emphasize moral ambiguity and sexual motivations. Also includes Stoner Noir, which has additional motivation provided by drugs or alcohol. (*Arsenic and Old Lace, The Big Lebowski*)

**Parody** – (see also Satire) imitates another work or person or thing to make fun of it or simply to get laughs. (*Airplane, Young Frankenstein*)

**Romantic Comedy** – (see also Screwball Comedy) The prototypical “Boy Meets Girl, Boy Loses Girl, Boy Wins Girl Back” plot, which lately has expanded to include Boy Meets Boy (or Girl Meets Girl) plots as well. (*When Harry Met Sally, Scott Pilgrim vs The World*)

**Satire** – Uses humor and ridicule, often expressed as sarcasm, to express anger or frustration with the status quo. (*MASH, Idiocracy*)

**Screwball Comedy** – features farcical situations, slapstick, fast paced repartee and a plot involving marriage or romantic pairing. Plots often involve class disparities, “meet cute” situations and mistaken identities. Many of Shakespeare’s comedies, such as *Much Ado About Nothing* and *As You Like It*, have elements of the screwball comedy.

**Slapstick** – (see also Farce) broad comedy featuring boisterous action, “pain with no consequences”, farcical situations and silly jokes. (*The Three Stooges, Old School*)

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Resources For Film

Awards
Academy Awards Searchable DB
http://awardsdatabase.oscars.org/ampas_awards/BasicSearchInput.jsp
Cannes Film Festival http://www.festival-cannes.fr/default4.php
Directors Guild http://www.dga.org/index2.php3?chg=
Screen Actors Guild http://www.sagawards.org/
Seattle Int’l Film Festival http://www.siff.net/index.aspx
Sundance Film Festival http://www.sundance.org/festival/

Books to Film
http://www.oclc.org/research/top1000/film.htm

Box Office
http://boxofficemojo.com/
http://www.the-numbers.com/

Film Lists +
British Film Institutes Best Films http://www.bfi.org.uk/sightandsound/topten/index.html
Film Site (AMC) http://www.filmsite.org/
Jeeem's CinePad: Interesting compilation of the “best” films
http://www.cinepad.com/awards/awards_1-50.htm

Film Encyclopedias: Technical, Cast/Crew, Awards, Trivia, Reviews
All Movie Guide http://www.allmovie.com/
Internet Movie Database http://www.imdb.com/
Metacritic: One stop place for movie reviews with composite score http://www.metacritic.com/
Movie Review Query Engine: Great source for reviews of older movies http://www.mrqe.com/
Rotten Tomatoes: One stop place for movie reviews with composite score
http://www.rottentomatoes.com/
Video Librarian: Great source for NF reviews http://www.videolibrarian.com/

Foreign Films:
Good resource for the beginner and novice http://www.foreignfilms.com/
Hand selected foreign and indies from the planet http://www.filmmovement.com/

Screen for Content
Kids In Mind: Aid to find kid friendly movies http://www.kidsinmind.com/
Screen It: Aid to find kid friendly movies, free version http://www.screenit.com/index1.html

Misc
Fandango: Film/Theater Search by Zip Code http://www.fandango.com/

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