

# Abitur-related movies

## Who says learning can't be fun?

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Recommended movies in preparation for your "Abitur".

## America

An inconvenient truth (environment)

Cool it (environment)

Erin Brockovich (corporate America; environment)

The Insider (corporate America)

The pursuit of happiness (American Dream)

The Great Gatsby (American Dream)

Death of a Salesman (American Dream)

American Beauty (American Dream; American Life)

Babel (American Dream, superpower America, illegal immigrants)

Forrest Gump (American Dream; history)

Pretty Woman (American Dream)

Traffic (drug trafficking; immigrants)

Across the sea of time (Immigration; IMAX 3D Movie)

Gangs of New York (Immigration; 1835-1860)

Color purple (Slavery)

## Politics 2000s

Wall Street 2: Money never sleeps (financial crisis 2008)

Frontline: Inside the Meltdown (documentary, financial crisis 2008)

ENRON: The smartest guys in the room (capitalism, financial crisis)

Let's make money (documentary, capitalism, financial crisis, globalisation)

Michael Moore: Capitalism: A Love Story (documentary, capitalism, financial crisis)

Michael Moore: Fahrenheit 911 (9/11) (documentary, Elections, Terrorist attacks)

Michael Moore: Bowling for Columbine (documentary, School Shooting)

L. A. Crash (racism, melting pot)

A time to kill (KKK; racism)

W (George W. Bush)

The American Future (the future of America; documentary)

9/11 (terrorism)

Body of lies (terrorism)

Project: Peacemaker (terrorism)

[The Special Relationship (Tony Blair / Bill Clinton Movie) planned]

### **Politics 1990s**

Wag the Dog (American politics, Clintongate)  
Primary colors (American politics, Clinton, elections)

### **Politics 1980s**

Rocky IV (Cold War; Ideology)  
War Games (Cold War)  
The day after (Cold War; Atomic War)  
When the wind blows (Cold War; Atomic War)  
Wall Street (capitalism)

### **Politics 1970s**

Platoon (Vietnam War)  
Good Morning Vietnam (Vietnam War)  
Apocalypse Now! (Vietnam War)  
All the president's men (Politics: Watergate)  
Nixon (American politics – Watergate)  
Frost/Nixon (Politics: Watergate)

### **Politics 1960s**

Apollo 13 (Space program)  
MASH (Korean War)  
Malcolm X (Racism)  
Mississippi Burning (Racism)  
Thirteen Days (Politics: Cold War – Cuba Crisis)  
JFK (Politics, Assassination)  
James Bond: From Russia with Love (Cold War)

### **Politics 1950s**

Good night, and good luck (American politics, McCarthy)

### **Politics 1940s and before ...**

Grapes of Wrath (Great Depression)  
Citizen Kane (American Dream, media)  
Saving Private Ryan (WW2)  
American Experience: Crash of 1929 (financial crisis 1929)

### **Civil War**

North & South (mini-series, Civil War)

Lincoln (President, Civil War)

Glory (Civil War)

Gettysburg (Civil War)

Gone with the wind (Civil War; melodramatic)

### **American Independence / Discovery**

The Patriot (American Independence)

Benjamin Franklin - PBS Documentation

1776 (Musical about the Declaration of Independence)

1492 (Christopher Columbus)

Alistair Cooke's America (an overview of history from its beginnings to the 1970s)

## **Great Britain**

### **Politics / the Royals**

The Deal (Tony Blair, Gordon Brown)  
The Queen (Royals, Tony Blair)  
[The Special Relationship (Tony Blair / Bill Clinton Movie) planned]  
Love actually (Prime Minister; US-GB relations)  
Enigma (1940s, Great Britain vs. Nazi-Germany)  
Churchill  
Gathering Storm (Winston Churchill)

### **Immigration**

Bend it like Beckham (Immigration, Indian)  
East is East (Immigration, Indian)  
Bhaji on the Beach (Immigration, Indian)  
Just a kiss (Immigration, Pakistani)  
Monsoon wedding (Immigration, Indian)  
My beautiful laundrette (Immigration, Indian)  
My son the fanatic (Immigration, Islam)

### **Literature**

About a boy (contemporary classic)  
Braveheart (Scotland)  
1984  
Animal Farm

### **Society**

Billy Elliot (History: 80s)  
The full Monty (Industrial decline; 80s)  
Brassed off (History: 90s)

### **Northern Ireland Conflict**

In the name of the father (Northern Ireland Conflict)

### **History**

Simon Schama – A history of Britain (an extensive overview of Britain's history from 3.000 BC up to today)  
[Margarete Thatcher Movie planned]

## **Commonwealth**

### **Australia**

The long walk home (Racism)

### **Africa**

Cry freedom (Racism)

Amistad (Racism)

African Queen (missionaries)

### **Canada**

Bollywood Hollywood (Toronto, culture clash, Indian girl)

### **India**

Gandhi (India, Commonwealth)

Bride and Prejudice (Bollywood musical)

Lagaan (Victorian India)

A passage to India (India, Commonwealth)

## Other topics

### Shakespeare

Shakespeare in Love (Shakespeare, Britain 16<sup>th</sup> c.)

Elizabeth I (history with certain liberties)

Elizabeth I – the golden years (history with certain liberties)

A Midsummer Night's Dream (1999) (comedy; semi-classic interpretation)

Hamlet (2000) Ethan Hawke (tragedy; modern interpretation)

Hamlet – Branagh (tragedy; close to the text, mid-modern interpretation)

Hamlet – Mel Gibson (tragedy; classic interpretation)

Romeo & Juliet – Zeffirelli (tragedy; classic)

Romeo & Juliet – Baz Luhrmann (tragedy; modern)

Richard III (history play; rather modern)

Michael Wood - In Search of Shakespeare (an attempt of a biography)

## Technology

1984 (fashistoid state)

Dr. Strangelove (A-Bomb)

Oppenheimer – the father of the a-bomb (A-Bomb)

Manhattan Project (A-Bomb)

ReGenesis (biotechnology, terror, genetic engineering; TV-series)

The Island of Dr. Moreau (Genetic engineering)

Gattaca (Genetic engineering)

The Omega-Man (Bio-weapons)

And the band played on (discovery of the AIDS-Virus)

Enemy of the state (NSA, Internet, identity)

The Net (Internet, identity)

eXistenz (computer games)

Startup.com (documentary, computers, dot-com bubble)

Startup (computers)

Pirates of Silicon Valley (Microsoft / Apple)