1.- Themes to discuss

The worship of that body that exists in today’s society prevents us from seeing the person in their totality. We fixate only on external values, on appearances, on sexual values, to the point of turning the body into ‘mouthwatering popcorn’.

2.- Plot Summary

At 51 years old, Dan Foreman seems to be at his peak. Thanks to his skills as a negotiator and department head, he has closed his best year as an ad-exec for Sports America, the magazine he works for. The older of his two daughters, Alex, the apple of his eye, is about to leave home for NYU, and he has just received an unexpected and fantastic piece of news: he’s going to be a father once again. Now he will have to fasten his seat belt. But a new character comes to the table: Carter Duryea, the 26 year old executive that Globecom, the multinational company that just acquired the magazine, appointed as Dan’s boss. On his end, Carter isn’t the ‘champion’ that he seems. He just broke up with his girlfriend and is lacking a united family like the Foremans. For this reason, he invites himself over to their house for dinner, and ends up starting a relationship with Alex.

2.- Themes to discuss

Carter, younger than Dan, asks him a direct question, because seeing a man with a happy home life raises a question in him. Dan seems to have the perfect marriage and Carter wants to know the secret. The underlying question is how to persevere in love every day. Dan gives a short, equally direct answer. It is a love that is chosen, and that is kept faithful.

This answer opens the door to speaking about fidelity not just as a type of “constraint”, but rather as a way of maintaining a promise made to a person out of love.
1.- Plot Summary

This is the first film that has Woody Allen as director, screenwriter and actor, about a small-time pickpocket. Virgil is pathetic and terrible at his job, but he is incapable of reforming (before his love Louise’s surprise) and constantly ends up behind bars.

2.- Themes to discuss

One of the characteristics of the conception of sexuality today is the rupture produced between sexuality and procreation. When we separate the two significances of sexuality, we lose its integration into the totality of the person.

This scene shows, in a humorous way, the stunned response of a husband when his wife tells him that they are expecting a child. He is not capable of connecting his actions (the conjugal act) with their possible consequences (the conception of a new human being).

This scene can also lead into a discussion on the meaning of freedom and responsibility. A freedom that is recognized in the steps prior to an action and throughout its execution, but which disconnects itself from the action’s consequences.
1.- Plot Summary

This movie tells the true story of Michael Oher, who became a player in the NFL when all the odds were against him. It all starts with Big Mike, an African American adolescent who grew up in a broken home. With his situation, it’s a miracle that he didn’t become a delinquent or a bum. He is a quiet boy, behind in his studies, and without a home. Surprisingly, they admit him to a Christian school where a teacher tries to help him, but not without difficulties. The real turning point in his life comes when Leigh Anne, the mother of two boys who attend the same school, notices him. From offering to let him stay the night at their house, she ends up, with the support her husband and two sons, adopting him. Having witnessed his exceptional physical talents, they support him in his possible athletic career.

2.- Themes to discuss

Love brings out the best of us, it reveals to us new and unexpected horizons. We begin to exist through love and love makes us be. Michael is very talented in sports, but seems to not understand the mechanics of the game. So, his adoptive mother, Leigh Anne, tells him to try to think about his teammates as if they were his own family. Michael had demonstrated that he knows how to take care of the people that he loves. The suggestion proves effective.

What Leigh Anne achieved was integrating Michael’s potential with the rules of the game, using a reference to love that he understood. He knows how to give himself to his family and now must do the same with his teammates. They key to the integration of sexuality in the person is given to us by love and the reference to a donation and handing over of oneself. Love is what clarifies sexuality.
1.- Plot Summary

Despite the hesitations of his wife, Chano, 70 years old and retired, decides to enroll in college to pursue his dream of studying literature. Even though at first his new classmates – all very young – are surprised by the presence of their new classmate, he soon becomes one of them: he shows up with his wife to a party, gives them advice, helps them prepare for a theater performance...

2.- Themes to discuss

Chano has a conversation with two young guys who are his classmates. The way in which they refer to women could not be more different.

The young boys seem to forget that women are people. They reduce them to mere objects that can satisfy their needs. But Chano, who has the experience of his marriage and many years of life, sets them on the right path: they need to be guardians of their beauty, not exploiters of their pleasures.

1.- Themes to discuss

The temptation to look only within myself and to not seek out the good, destroy me as a person. The jedi seek the good of others, while the sith think only of themselves.
1.- Plot Summary

Neil, an aspiring writer, and Marina, a young mother, are together on the French island of St Michel, known in France as the wonder of the Western world, and are revitalized by the sensation of being in love once again. Neil left the United States in search of a better life, leaving behind a series of painful facts. Looking in Marina’s eyes, Neil is sure that he has found the woman that he can love with dedication. But when, years later, a series of personal and professional circumstances put their relationship in jeopardy, another woman appears in Neil’s life, with equal or even greater force: Jane. Will this man be able to stay faithful to his initial promise, or will he take advantage of the situation in order to change his life and attain the future he always yearned for?

2.- Themes to discuss

Father Quintana is going through a crisis of faith. In this case, it is not lovelessness that destroys, but rather the cooling down of his first love. The priestly vocation is a call to the donation of oneself (also with his body).

In this scene we see the path back to love that Father Quintana undertakes through charity. He does this while praying the St. Patrick’s Breastplate and we see that his actions, his donation to others, are what make him recover from the wounds in his heart. The scene opens the door for a conversation on the ways in which we can recover from lovelessness.

1.- Themes to discuss

Man finds himself able to realize excellent actions (wearing the ring), but it will only be possible if his affectivity moves him to perform them.

Our adolescents live in a time of grand ideals, and it is through these that we can help them move their affectivity toward the attainment of these ideals, and the possibility of integrating all of the aspects of my person through the virtues (Sam: “so that good may reign in this world”).