Assignment Rescue: The Story of Varian Fry  
Studying the Holocaust through film  
Correlating the Film Objectives and the Florida State Standards

FILM: Assignment Rescue: The Story of Varian Fry

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives/Questions</th>
<th>Florida State Standards Correlates</th>
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<td>“The story of Varian Fry and the Emergency Rescue Committee is the dramatic account of Varian Fry, a New York journalist sent to Marseilles in 1940 by the Emergency Rescue Committee. His assignment was to help save scores of anti-Nazi refugees trapped in France and hunted by the Gestapo. Fry soon became a veritable Scarlet Pimpernel and was responsible for the rescue of hundreds of anti-Nazis, including many of Europe’s most distinguished artists, writers and scholars, among them Andre Breton, Marc Chagall, Max Ernst and Hannah Arendt. The narration, spoken by celebrated actress Meryl Streep provides the historical context for this compelling but little known tale of a young American who helped save several thousand political and intellectual refugees in the early years of World War II.”</td>
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Historical context for Varian Fry.

**SUBJECT: Social Studies**

**Standard 7 SS.912.W.7:** Recognize significant causes, events, figures and consequences of the Great War period and the impact on worldwide balance of power.

**Benchmark SS.912.W.7.6** Analyze the restriction of individual rights and the use of mass terror against populations in the Soviet Union, Nazi Germany and Occupied Territories.

**Standard 1 SS.912.W.1:** Utilizes historical inquiry skills and analytical processes.

**Benchmark:** SS.912.W.1.1- Use timelines to establish cause and effects relationships of historical events.

**Benchmark SS.912.W.1.6:** Evaluate the role of history in shaping identity and character.

**Benchmark: SS.912.W.7.8:** – Explain the causes, events and effects of the Holocaust (1933-1945) including its roots in the long tradition of anti-Semitism, nineteenth century ideas about race and nation and Nazi dehumanization of the Jews and other victims.

**STRAND: Humanities SS.912.H**

**Standard 1 SS.912.H.1:** Identify and analyze the historical, social and cultural contexts of the arts.

**Benchmark SS.912.H.1.2:** Describe how historical events, social context and culture, impact forms, techniques, and purposes of works in the arts, including the relationship between a government and its citizens.

**Benchmark: SS.912.A.6.In.c:** Identify the impact of the Holocaust during World War II on Jews and other groups.
### Benchmark: SS.912.A.6.Pa.c: Recognize that groups may be treated badly because they are different.

**SUBJECT:** ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS  
**STRAND:** LAFS.910.RH - Reading Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies 6-12  
**Cluster 1 LAFS.910.RH.1 – Key Ideas and Details**  
**Benchmark LAFS.9910.1.1 - Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources, attending to such features as the date and origin of the information.**  
**Benchmark: LAFS.910.RH.1.2 – Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of how key events and ideas develop over the course of the text.**  
**Benchmark: LAFS.910.RH.1.3 – Analyze in detail a series of events described in a text; determine whether earlier events caused later ones or simply preceded them.**  
**Cluster 2 LAFS.910.RH.2 - Craft and Structure**  
**Benchmark LAFS.910.RH.2.4 - Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text including vocabulary describing political, social, or economic aspects of history/social science.**

### Class discussion ideas related to the film's content and presentation

**SUBJECT:** Social Studies  
**STRAND:** Sociology  
**Standard 4 SS.912.S.4: Social Groups/Explore the impacts social groups on individual and group behavior.**  
**Benchmark SS.912.S.4.11: Discuss how humans interact in a variety of social settings.**  
**STRAND: LAFS.1112.RH - Reading Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies 6-12**  
**Cluster 1: LAFS.1112.RH.1 – Key Ideas and Details**  
**Benchmark: LAFS.1112.RH.1.1 – Cite specific textual* evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources, connecting insights gained from specific details to an understanding of the text as a whole.**  
**Benchmark: LAFS.1112.RH.1.2 – Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary that makes clear the relationships among the key details and ideas.**  
**Benchmark: LAFS.1112.RH.1.3 – Evaluate various explanations for actions or events and determine which explanation best accords with
textual evidence, acknowledging where the text leaves matters uncertain.

**Subject:** Social Studies  
**Strand:** Humanities  
**Standard:** Respond critically and aesthetically to various works in the arts.  

**Benchmark: SS.912.H.2.In.a:** Recognize characteristics of specific works within various art forms, such as architecture, dance, film, literature, music, theatre, and visual arts.

4. Suggestions for connecting the film with broader explorations in history, media studies.

**SUBJECT: SOCIAL STUDIES**  
**STRAND: Humanities SS.912.H**  
**Standard 2 SS.912.H.2:** Respond critically and aesthetically to various works in the arts.  

**Benchmark SS.912.H.2.3:** Apply various types of critical analysis (contextual, formal, and intuitive criticism) to works in the arts, including the types and use of symbolisms in the art form and its philosophical implications.  

**Benchmark SS.912.H.2.5:** Describe how historical, social, cultural and physical settings influence an audience’s aesthetic response.

**SUBJECT: SOCIAL STUDIES**  
**STRAND: Geography SS.912.G**  
**Standard 1: SS.912.G.1** - Understand how to use maps and other geographic representations, tools, and technology to report information.  

**Benchmark: SS.912.G.1.1** - Design maps using a variety of technologies based on descriptive data to explain physical and cultural attributes of major world regions.  

**Standard 6: SS.912.G.6** - Understands how to apply geography to interpret the past and present and plan for the future.  

**Benchmark SS.912.G.6.1** - Use appropriate maps and other graphic representations to analyze geographic problems and changes over time.  

**Benchmark SS.912.G.6.3** - formulate hypothesis and test geographic models that demonstrate complex relationships between physical and cultural phenomena.