

Abstract Submitted
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The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly: Using Movies to Teach Science JOANNE BUDZIEN, MacMurray College — Can the plane outrun the explosion? Could the heroes escape injury from the bomb by hiding in the bathtub? Are we in danger of being overrun by 50-foot-tall bugs that have been exposed to radiation? Many people in the general public do want to know the science behind much of what they see in the movies and on television. However, those people are unlikely to take a whole class because “everyone knows” that science classes are boring and irrelevant. On the other hand, an evening with an hour or so of video clips interspersed with explanations of the science can be a big hit both to raise general science fluency and recruit students into general education science classes. Film-editing technology has advanced to the point that anyone who has a computer and is willing to invest a couple days in learning to use the software can make a clips-with-PowerPoint DVD that can be shown to a local audience for discussion or used in a science class to show the exact scenes to save time. In this presentation, I’ll show an example of my work and talk about how you can make your own DVD.

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