

Jackson Wright – Abstract for DAS Research

<https://vimeo.com/266776198>

“Faint Glimmers of Civilization: Kubrick, Anderson, and the Human Experience” investigates how two directors, Stanley Kubrick and Wes Anderson, utilize many of the same technical and framing devices to articulate the visual representation of their world, while ultimately having opposite approaches to the individual within their films. Kubrick is a cold and distant creator who wants complete independence from the institution, while Anderson is a more empathetic filmmaker, who embraces the individual within the institution.

The visual similarities between Anderson and Kubrick have been noted before in the film community, but without deep technical or philosophical analysis. Through this research, I am able to provide a new discussion to the wider film community. My research has consisted of reading books and articles on the two filmmakers, to understand their background and general views on humanity. Most importantly, I studied all of their feature films to note visual motifs through both directors' oeuvres. Through the research process, I learned how to effectively analyze not just a scene, but even shots frame-by-frame. In addition, I learned about Nietzschean philosophy and how to apply it within fictional narratives. Finally, through making the video essay, my technical video and audio editing skills became more precise, as well as increased proficiency in creating a coherent narrative through a long-form video.