

Addition of Films-Policy

Prior to being added to the Ave Maria University library collection, all film and film-related materials (including DVDs and VHS video cassettes) go through a selection process to ensure that the material they contain is appropriate for the University community and will make a positive contribution to the library collection. A positive contribution to the library collection offers the University community entertainment that generally affirms traditional catholic values. All films go through a three step process to ensure they meet this qualitative requirement:

THE THREE STEP PROCESS:

1. The Library Administrator must first approve the addition of the filmic material in question for addition to the library collection.
2. After the initial approval is given, the film is checked against existing reviews. If possible, the film is checked against a review provided by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, whose film reviews have been archived online at <http://www.usccb.org/movies/>.

The classifications used by the USCCB film review archive are as follows:

- A-I – general patronage:
- A-II –adults and adolescents;
- A-III—adults
- L—limited adult audience, films whose problematic content many adults would find troubling.
- A-IV* -- DISCONTINUED RATING. Originally adults, with reservations. (An A-IV classification designates problematic films that, while not morally offensive in themselves, require caution and some analysis and explanation as a safeguard against wrong interpretations and false conclusions.)
- O- morally offensive

Films with a rating of 'O' are automatically eliminated from the selection process. A film with a rating of A-IV may continue in the process at the discretion of the library administrator.

3. The Library Administrator is provided with the collected materials and makes a final decision as to whether the film in question should be added to the Library's Collection.