

Reflection Paper Assignment: *The Farewell* (Lulu Wang)

Overview

You are invited to write a reflection paper on *The Farewell* (directed by Lulu Wang). This film offers multiple perspectives on Chinese culture, family, and identity. The purpose of this assignment is to encourage you to think critically about the diverse experiences presented in the film and to connect them with your own reflections and perspectives.

Requirements

- **Length: Minimum 500 words (in English)**
- **Grading: This assignment will be marked for completion only (not graded for content).**
- **Credit: This reflection will count as 2 points toward your final grade in this course.**

Prompts (choose at least 2–3 to respond to):

1. *The Farewell* presents a family navigating cultural differences between China and the United States. How are these differences expressed in the film? Which moments stood out to you, and why?
2. The film explores the concept of family obligation and collective responsibility. How does this compare or contrast with your own cultural background or personal experiences?

3. The decision to keep the grandmother's illness a secret is central to the story. What cultural values does this reflect, and how did it make you reflect on your own perspectives about truth, care, and responsibility?
4. The film highlights intergenerational perspectives (grandmother, parents, adult children). How do these voices shape the family dynamic? Can you connect this to dynamics in your own family or community?
5. How does the film challenge or reframe your understanding of Chinese culture and Chinese people? What new perspectives did you gain?
6. Reflect on your own experiences living between, across, or within cultures. How did this film help you think differently about identity, belonging, and cultural perspective?