

21L 011 The Film Experience
Prof. David Thorburn
Lecture 18

Grand Illusion(1937)

1) Camera

Invisible witness: respectful, attentive, restless

2) Actors

Von Stroheim: The man you love to hate

Gabin: Mad proletarian

3) Themes

Prison camp as microcosm

Barriers, boundaries

Historical transition

4) Renoir's Maturity

Character

Plot: a war story without battles

The title: how many grand illusions?