

Title	Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead
Director	Tom Stoppard
Date	1990
Area	Self and Personal Identity
Theme	Personal Identity and memory
Plot Summary	A film is based on Stoppard's own play about two minor characters in Shakespeare's Hamlet, summoned to the court by the King to spy on their old friend Hamlet. Thrust into the centre of the action, these marginal characters have a very limited sense of who they are, and this is reflected in the very limited memories they have of their own experiences and past. At the beginning, they have a lot of trouble remembering who sent for them, what they have been summoned to do, and even, at times, which of them is Rosencrantz and which Guildenstern.
Key Scenes	
Relevant Text	Locke, Essay Concerning Human Understanding, 'Of Identity and Diversity' (II. Xxvii)