

Title	Blade Runner
Director	Ridley Scott
Date	1982; director's cut 1991; final cut 2007
Area	Early Modern Philosophy
Theme	Locke – personal identity
Plot Summary	A future society is infiltrated by 4 laboratory-created 'replicants' who have escaped from the outer colonies and returned to earth. They are intent on getting their maker, Dr Tyrell of Tyrell Corporation, to extend their life spans beyond their allotted four years. As faulty machinery they have to be tracked down and destroyed by the 'blade runner', Deckard (Harrison Ford). Along the way Deckard forms a relationship with Rachel, who does not know that she is a replicant. She has been given false memories (actually the memories of Tyrell's niece) allowing her to think herself human, the idea being that it will make her more manipulable. Raises the issue of personal identity and its relationship to memory.
Key Scenes	Deckard meets Rachel and suggests to her that she is a replicant, that her memories are implanted and that they are in fact Tyrell's niece's. [29.50 – 34.45] http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sWqS63bOd7g Later, Rachel remembers having had piano lessons and says that she doesn't know if they are hers or not. The instability caused by Rachel's becoming aware that her memories are not her own underscores the link between her memories and sense of identity. [1.00.39 – 1.09.02]
Relevant Text	Locke, Essay Concerning Human Understanding, 'Of Identity and Diversity' (II. Xxvii)