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| <b>Title</b>         | The Conformist   |
| <b>Director</b>      | Bernardo Bertolucci  |
| <b>Date</b>          | 1970   |
| <b>Area</b>          | Greek Philosophy   |
| <b>Theme</b>         | Socrates   |
| <b>Plot Summary</b>  | A young man, Clerici, joins the Italian Fascist movement and is sent to assassinate his former mentor, a philosophy professor. The film presents a visual translation of Plato's simile of the Cave. The film uses the cave image to represent the delusions of Fascist propaganda. Using the Cave image was Bertolucci's idea; it wasn't in Alberto Moravia's original novel.   |
| <b>Key Scenes</b>    | Clerici visits the philosophy professor. Having closed the shutters and turned his old philosophy professor's office into a cave-like place, he recalls how the professor used to lecture on Plato's cave. In response, the professor compares the deluded prisoners in the Cave with the inhabitants of Fascist Italy, blinded by propaganda. [48.48 -51.40]<br><a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hiT8a1Z12H0&amp;feature=related">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hiT8a1Z12H0&amp;feature=related</a> |
| <b>Relevant Text</b> | Plato, Republic Book VII, 514a-517a<br>Julie Annas, An Introduction to Plato's Republic, 257-8   |