

Title	On the Beach
Director	Stanley Kramer
Date	1959
Area	20 th Century French Philosophy
Theme	Existentialism - Camus
Plot Summary	Portrays the last people left alive after the third world war. They have taken refuge in Australia and as they await their death from the radioactive clouds spreading around the globe, they try to cope with their seemingly pointless existence in various ways. Some turn to religion, to blind faith or 'philosophical suicide' (Camus); others, to real suicide. The film dramatizes a situation, human existence faced with inevitable death, lacking point or purpose, that Camus diagnoses as the more general human condition. In the Myth of Sisyphus, Camus poses the question: if life is essentially absurd, why not just commit suicide (or philosophical suicide). He argues for a more positive alternative however.
Key Scenes	
Relevant Text	Albert Camus, The Myth of Sisyphus