Alfred Hitchcock:
-Hitchcock’s British years
- Born in Essex, England in 1899
- Good at math
- Described his early life as sad made worse by his obesity
- Used illustrations to get a job as an art director and worked his way up to be a filmmaker
- Never had much self confidence or confidence in public and was able to surround himself with experts who helped him for years
- Worked for just about every British studio but his finest years came with Gaumont-British in the mid ‘30’s
  - Man Who Knew Too Much
  - The 39 Steps
  - 1935

-Hitchcock’s Style and Themes
- Took his own fears and “gave them to us”
- Point of View shot (Eye match)
  - Let us see what the characters were seeing
  - Rear Window
- Bird’s eye view shot (Eye of God view; radical overhead shot)
  - The Birds
- Mise-en-scene (German)/montage (Soviet)
- Overarching theme of appearance vs. reality
- Fear of authority
  - Hitchcock’s father had Alfred as a young child, give a police officer a note and was then put in a cell and told that’s what was done to “naughty boys”
- Idea of knowledge being dangerous
  - North by Northwest
  - The 39 Steps
- Male and female relations
- Voyeurism (Characters spy on one another)