Surveillance has often been the topic of popular films. The movies listed below, appropriate for older teens and beyond, can be useful in introducing the topic to high school or university students.

**The Bourne Ultimatum** (2007) A super soldier who has lost his memory struggles to evade the watchful surveillance of the CIA agency that created him.

**Brazil** (1985) After a man living in a dystopian future is wrongfully identified as a terrorist because of a glitch in the state surveillance system, a bureaucrat tries to correct the mistake and ends up being pursued as an enemy of the state.

**The Conversation** (1974) Directed by Francis Ford Coppola, this classic follows a surveillance expert obsessed with his own privacy as he struggles to protect the couple he has placed under surveillance.

**Eagle Eye** (2008) Two strangers are brought together when the technology they use on a daily basis is used to track and control them. After their family members are threatened, they agree to commit a series of acts that may culminate in murder.
**Gattaca** (1997) A dystopian look at a genetically engineered future, in which citizens are classified and tracked on the basis of their genetic code. The main character, who has been relegated from birth to the underclass because of his inferior genetic makeup, trades places with a genetically enhanced man so that he can take his place on a mission to space.

**Das Leben der Anderen** (*The Lives of Others*, 2006) Set in East Berlin in 1984, this film follows the lives of a writer, his lover, and the secret police officer who bugs the man’s apartment. An excellent look at the workings of surveillance in the Communist Bloc, both for its insights into the exercise of power and its empathetic reading of those who believed in the Orwellian vision of control through total knowledge.

**Minority Report** (2002) Based on a short story by Phillip K. Dick, this film presents a future in which the police can stop crime before it happens. After a police officer is charged with a murder about to happen, the film explores the impact of surveillance on the ability of people to make choices and take responsibility for their actions.

**Rear Window** (1954) This classic Hitchcock tale examines the relationship between surveillance, voyeurism, and privacy by following the life of a newspaper reporter who is housebound while he recovers from an injury.

**Red Road** (2006) A CCTV operator in Glasgow becomes obsessed with following a man who appears on her screen.

**A Scanner Darkly** (2006) Based on another Phillip K. Dick short story, this film explores the use of surveillance in a dystopian future in which the state has lost the war on drugs.