Max McPherson

Chapter 3 Assignment

 Truly, part of my assignment that I had to do was to watch, “Burden of Dreams” and “Werner Herzog Eats his shoe.” I found these two films very interesting. Werner Herzog’s philosophy of film in “Burden of Dreams,” shows how brutal nature can be in tropical places in the world. It’s not as peaceful or beautiful as people would think. It seems to be a struggle and dangerous to humans. This film isn’t really similar to “Werner Herzog eats his shoe,” because of the different aspects that take place, but guerilla filmmaking relates very well to both films. You can tell just by watching these films shows a form of independent filmmaking characterized by low budgets. The audience can see all the shots that are taken in real locations without necessarily obtaining permission from other owners of the location. I wouldn’t say that Herzog didn’t have the money to have the budget to get permits or rent out locations. I feel he wanted to show that he can make good and interesting films with a low budget equipment and crew. Werner Herzog’s method of filmmaking differs from other filmmakers in a few ways. He shows that he can create movies for a very low price and when he creates these films he tells the truth in his own eyes and is actually a part of the films that he makes. He’s in real locations which are some areas of danger, but all is real. For example, in “Burden of Dreams” Werner and his crew get caught up in a war between Peru and Ecuador, facing problems with weather and morale of cast and the crew falling apart. He risks his life in order to make a film that he needs and wants to make for him and to show others what the world is really like. Herzog doesn’t work on sets that are built for a film or goes into “mainstream” studios. He goes out in the world and sees what fits best for his film/art.