Humanities: Horror 2015-2016

Parent Permission for "R" or "Unrated" Rated Films

Dear parents & guardians,

Your child has enrolled in my course to study the evolution of Horror, as a genre. And, although the primary focus of this course will consist of reading and writing with iconic elements of the horror literary genre, this course will also include the exploration of pivotal films for the horror genre. When films are watched, the class will use very much the same skills and objectives that they use when studying & analyzing a novel, such as plot and character development, theme, allusions, conflict, determining audience, archetypes, point of view, setting, styles, tone, and mood. By analyzing the director's use of color, lighting, shadows, close-ups, camera direction, costumes, film score/soundtrack, and other industry elements, students will have the chance to evaluate how the genre is enhanced (or in some cases even harmed) by transferring the elements of the literary genre into techniques for the big screen. Essentially, the students will learn how classic & contemporary horror films have impacted the genre as a whole.

The fundamental objective of this course is for the student to appreciate the mythos and motivation behind the depiction of horror villains & monsters, both in literature and in film. The films brought into my classroom will depict a classic villain, iconic monster, or recurring formulaic plot synopsis, a pivotal shift in the expression in key elements of the genre, or they will reflect a re-imagining of a classic creation or concept. And, although the films are iconic to our analysis & understanding of the genre, some of the films may contain an "R" rating (or "unrated" – in the case of some independent films or films that preceded the creation of the MPAA rating scale & haven't been assigned a rating yet). By signing this permission slip, you are giving me your consent for your child to watch the films that I select for classroom use. Should you or your child ever feel uncomfortable with a selection that I choose to bring in, your child will **always** have the option to *opt out* of the film and receive an alternate assignment. All films watched in class are highly regarded & valued films of the horror genre. If you are unfamiliar with any of the films, please refer to www.imdb.com for plot summaries and parental viewing guides.

Based upon the examples that I have listed below, please consider this a fair representation of what I could bring into the classroom:
The Horror of Dracula (1958 – Unrated), Frankenstein (1931 – Unrated), Nosferatu (1922 – Unrated), Stand By Me (1988 – R), It (1990 – Unrated), The Shining (1980 – R), Halloween (1978 – R), Friday the 13th, Part II & III (1981 – R), Psycho (1960 – R), Psycho II (1983 – R), Wait Until Dark (1971 – Unrated), The Spiral Staircase (1945 – Unrated), The Omen (1976 – R), Tucker & Dale vs. Evil (2010), Orphan (2009 - R), Cabin in the Woods (2012 – R), Dead Snow (2009 – Unrated), Dead Snow 2: Red vs. Dead (2014 – R), Nightmare on Elm Street (1984 – R), Scream 1 – 4 (1996 -2011 – R), My Bloody Valentine (1981 & 2009 – R), Children of the Corn (1984 – R), Pet Semetary (1989 – R), Terror Train (1980 – R), The Stuff (1985 – R), Evil Dead (1981 – NC17), Evil Dead II (1987 – Unrated), My Soul to Take (2010 – R), Se7en (1995 – R), Paranormal Activity (2007 – R), etc.

Thank you, in advance, for your support!

Sincerely, Ms. Casperson   (Humanities: Horror Genre)

Please print your name & then sign below to indicate that you have read this form. Your signature will grant me permission to show your child the horror films that I bring into the classroom. However, at any time, you or your child may indicate to me (in writing) that you would like to opt out of an individual film selection in favor of an alternate assignment.

(Must be turned in by: September 7th)

STUDENT - **NAME** (please print): _____

Student Signature: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN - NAME (please print) : _____

Parent/Guardian Signature_____

Parent/Guardian E-mail address: _____