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| Modèle de lettre aux parents (version anglaise) |
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Dear Parent or Guardian:

Your son or daughter has chosen to enroll in *Cinema as a Witness to Modern History*, a new Grade 12 social studies course that uses examples of modern film to explore key themes in world history since the beginning of the 20th century. During the course, students will view a selected number of fiction and documentary films in class and may also be required to view selected films as homework assignments.

The purpose of the course is twofold:

1. to engage students in critical thinking about the role of cinema as an art form, mass media tool and source of historical information;
2. to engage students in in-depth research and evaluation of the significance, relevance, consequences and ethical implications of historical events that have shaped the modern world.

Most of the recommended films are rated 14A by the Canadian Home Video Ratings system. Some of these films contain graphic scenes and adult content, as they deal with difficult topics such as genocide and war. Throughout the course, we will encourage students to discuss the films they view both in the classroom and at home. Students will carry out research and written assignments and will be guided to respond to the selected films so as to enrich their awareness of the powerful emotional impact of film and to discover its effect on their understanding of modern history.

The films have been carefully selected to represent a variety of countries of origin, film genres, cinematic techniques and topics. They include films and film makers that represent key turning points in international and Canadian film history. Some of the recommended titles are:

* *Life is Beautiful* (La vita ès bella)
* *The Great Dictator* (Chaplin)
* *Doctor Strangelove*
* *Malcolm X*
* *The Lives of Others* (La vie des autres)
* *Persépolis*
* *Kandahar*

Other current films may be used or suggested as home viewing assignments. Additionally, clips from movies will be shown to illustrate specific cinematic techniques or effects. In all cases the films selected will be shown with a clear and explicit educational purpose, with appropriate student preparation, and followed up with debriefing and guided reflection. Most of the student assignments will involve reference to selected study and support films.

Please sign below and have your son or daughter return this letter as soon as possible. If you have any concerns about your son or daughter viewing these films or if there is specific subject matter you do not want them to view, please note this beside your signature. You may also email me if you have any questions or concerns.

Regards,

 (signature) (print name) (student’s name)

Le cinéma, témoin de l’histoire moderne - 12e année 35