Background

Our most recent paper assignment ("Witches") asked students to view American Horror Story, Season 3 ("Coven"), Episode 1 ("Bitchcraft"), through one of the critical lenses that we discussed during an earlier class meeting. Possible choices included (but were not limited to…): Feminist / Gender Criticism; Psychological / Psychoanalytic Theories; Structuralism / Deconstruction; Historical; etc.

Assignment

For your final paper and project, please apply the same mode of theoretical application (i.e. "critical theory") to another genre or topic. You may…

1) Extend one of our already familiar topics from previous paper assignments (e.g., monsters, vampires, zombies, ghosts, or witches).

2) Choose a new category that falls under the scope of "the supernatural." Please see me.

3) Focus on the entire 2nd Season of Stranger Things.

Thesis and Support

Being a thesis-driven paper, you should plan to identify and outline your original claims early in the essay and then use evidence that is accurate, relevant, current, and adequate to support your position(s).

Sources and Documentation

In addition to using materials from our existing course texts, please plan to rely on 3-5 outside sources (e.g., from the Stonehill Library Databases, credible / reputable websites (.edu), and book-length studies in print.) Be sure to cite all sources “in text” and on your Works Cited Page. Note: Do not use Block Quotes.
Information Literacy (…we will meet in the MacPháidín Library)

In order to support your projects and foster successful source gathering skills, we will engage with Digital Resources and Database Instruction—Thursday, 15 November 2018.

Presentations

1) Tuesday, 4 December
2) Thursday, 6 December
3) Tuesday, 11 December

5-6 students will present on each of the days listed above. (Please see sign-up sheet to secure your preferred time.) This will allow for 10-15 minutes of presentation time and feedback / discussion from your peers.

Note: The paper itself will not be due until our class’s scheduled final exam time; this will allow each student to incorporate feedback and suggestions that arise during individual presentations.

What’s at Stake?

In the conclusion to your paper, please reflect on what’s at stake—that is, how does viewing your chosen work through a specific lens or set of critical ideas benefit our greater understanding of the individual piece and the “supernatural” genre itself?

Formatting and Important Dates to Remember

Mode: Thesis-Driven
Style: MLA Format—double-spaced, 1” margins, Times New Roman, 12pt. font, etc.
Length: ~6-7 pages
Include a Works Cited Page (does not apply to page count)

Library Information Session—Thursday, 15 Nov.
In-Class Writing Workshop #1—Tues. 27 Nov. (bring 2 working drafts ~ 4 pages)
In-Class Writing Workshop #2—Thurs. 29 Nov. (bring 2 revised drafts ~ 7 pages)

Final Draft Due (Printed)—During our class’s final exam period—

Tuesday, December 18, 2018—4:00pm—7:30pm—In the Lobby of the Academic Welcome Center (near Au Bon Pain)

*Final Project / Presentation / Paper accounts for 10% of your final average.

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me: smorris4@stonehill.edu

Good Luck, and Happy Writing ☺