

98-186 Roller Coasters S15 Video Watching Assignment

General: For this assignment, you will watch 15 on-ride videos of roller coasters from a variety of categories. For each coaster, you will record basic information as well as your opinion of the coaster. This is **SOLO** work; no collaboration allowed.

Purpose: One of the best ways to get a good impression about what coasters around the world are like is to watch point of view (POV), or on-ride videos of the rides. It is better than pictures because while pictures can show you the elements of the ride, it gives little impression of the speed flow of the entire ride experience. The wide variety of videos should help highlight differences in manufacturers, styles, and types of coasters. Also, looking over the statistics of rides will help give you an idea what normal statistics of rides are like, and reflecting on good and bad aspects of the ride will help you identify overall good and bad design techniques.

How To: On the course website (<http://www.andrew.cmu.edu/~jzink/98-186>) in the Assignment's tab, download one of the submission templates (available in Word and Text; doesn't matter which you pick). Then follow the link to the video list. Each of the 15 categories will have many coasters, each with a link to the coaster's video on YouTube and the RCDB page. For each coaster you pick, go to the RCDB page and copy over the basic information and statistics. Then watch the video and fill in the rest of the info.

Things To Note:

- Some coasters fall into multiple categories. You may only watch a coaster for a single category (so you can't watch Montu's video and use it for both B&M and Inverted / Suspended).
- All the basic information should be easy to find on RCDB. If RCDB does not have the information, put "N/A" (but for the coasters I picked, this should rarely be the case). "Manufacturer" may be under "Make", "Builder" or "Designer" on RCDB; if you aren't sure, email me.
- Videos tend to have extra off-ride footage. I only require you to watch the front seat POV of the ride. While I encourage watching the rest of the video, feel free to skip to the POV part of the video.
- For the high level description, I'm looking for a basic description of the ride. What kind of ride was it? Any stand-out features? For example:
 - Kumba at BGT: A large looping coaster with many inversions, no camelbacks, interlocking corkscrews, and helix finale. The first loop goes around the lift hill.
 - Ravine Flyer II: Mid-sized woodie without camelbacks that is more twisted than out and back. Uses the terrain of the hill. Goes over a highway.
- For the high level description and things you liked / disliked, feel free to use phrases and keywords instead of full English sentences. However, make sure you have enough detail. For

instance, just saying “helix” is not enough, but saying “powerful 540° helix that flows well” is alright.

- For the high level description and things you liked / disliked, I’m not looking for a book, a couple sentences will suffice.

Example: For Goliath at SFMM

Name: Goliath

Amusement Park: Six Flags Magic Mountain

Wood Or Steel: Steel

Manufacturer: Giovanola

Video Link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nTtxFRLIfsA>

Height: 235ft

Length: 4500ft

Speed: 85mph

Inversion List (if any): N/A

High Level Description: Large hyper coaster with underground first drop, high turnaround, low camelback, and twister second half. Features a powerful 540° helix. Not many hills for a hyper coaster.

Things You Liked: Slowing the chain before the first drop and the tunnel at the bottom of the first drop. Also, the helix is fast and low and has cool turns leading into it.

Things You Disliked: The mid-course brake run kills the ride’s speed. The final turn and camelback also seem rather forceless.

Submission: Submit a filled in submission template via email (to jzink@andrew.cmu.edu).

Due Date: 11:59pm February 10th, or a week later for half credit.

Grading: Will be scored out of 75pts. Each coaster is 5pts; 2pts for basic info and 3pts for the high level description and things you liked and disliked.

Above and Beyond: While I only require you to watch 15 coasters, I encourage you to watch more videos. I’ve already gone out and found the videos for you; now all you have to do is click on the links. Watch a few after every class, especially if it is relevant to what we just talked about (so if we talked about Schwarzkopf that week, watch some Schwarzkopf videos). Note though that there will be no extra credit for watching more videos.