

English 5650: Advanced Seminar / The Gothic Novel

Professor Andrew Franta / a.franta@utah.edu

Fall 2024 / MW 11:50-1:10 / GC 5310

Office hours MW 3-4 / LNCO 3621

Description:

What are the pleasures of terror? What do horror movies owe to English literature? This course will explore the rise of the literature of terror in late eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century Britain. We will study the conventions that came to define the gothic novel and explore some of its most sensational examples. Readings include works by Horace Walpole, William Beckford, Ann Radcliffe, Matthew Lewis, Charlotte Dacre, and James Hogg.

Requirements:

Assignments will include regular quizzes on the reading, a paper proposal, introduction draft, annotated bibliography, presentation, and a final seminar paper of 12-15 pages. Attendance and active participation are expected. Grades will be based on the quizzes (10%), proposal (5%), introduction draft (10%), presentation (10%), annotated bibliography (15%), seminar paper (30%), and participation in class discussion and workshops (20%).

Course Policies:

Participation is an important component of the class; you must be present to participate. You are allowed two personal days for the semester; there are no excused absences. Three or more absences will result in a lower grade for participation (see below). If you miss more than eight class meetings, you will receive a failing participation grade. If you miss more than 50% of the class meetings, you will fail the course.

In calculating grades, I will drop your lowest quiz grade, but missing more than one quiz will lower your quiz average. No make-up quizzes will be given.

I am happy to give extensions as long as you contact me at least 24 hours before the assignment is due. Late assignments will receive a lower grade. To receive credit for the course, you must complete all course assignments.

Absences	Maximum Participation Grade
1	A
2	A
3	A-
4	B+
5	B
6	B-
7	C
8	D
9+	F
15+	F for the course

Texts:

Horace Walpole, *The Castle of Otranto* (Oxford ISBN: 978-0198704447)

William Beckford, *Vathek* (Oxford ISBN: 978-0199576951)

Ann Radcliffe, *A Sicilian Romance* (Oxford ISBN: 978-0199537396)

Matthew Lewis, *The Monk* (Oxford ISBN: 978-0198704454)

Charlotte Dacre, *Zofloya* (Oxford ISBN: 978-0199549733)

James Hogg, *The Private Memoirs and Confessions of a Justified Sinner* (Oxford ISBN: 978-0199217953)

Additional readings and course materials will be made available via Canvas.

Schedule (subject to revision):

Wk. 1

Aug. 19 Introduction – “Terrorist Novel Writing”

Aug. 21 Horace Walpole, *The Castle of Otranto*, 3-7, 15-55

Wk. 2

Aug. 26 *The Castle of Otranto*, 56-105

Aug. 28 Prefaces to *The Castle of Otranto*, 3-14

Wk. 3

Sept. 2 **Labor Day Holiday – NO CLASS**

Sept. 4 William Beckford, *Vathek*, 3-94

Wk. 4

Sept. 9 *Vathek*

Sept. 11 Ann Radcliffe, *A Sicilian Romance*, 1-103

Wk. 5

Sept. 16 *A Sicilian Romance*, 104-199

Sept. 18 *A Sicilian Romance*

Wk. 6

Sept. 23 Matthew Lewis, *The Monk*, 1-215

Sept. 25 *The Monk*

Wk. 7

Sept. 30 *The Monk*, 217-339

Oct. 2 *The Monk*

FALL BREAK – Oct. 6-13

Wk. 8

Oct. 14 Charlotte Dacre, *Zofloya*, 1-98

Oct. 16 *Zofloya*, 99-192

Wk. 9

Oct. 21 *Zofloya*, 193-268

Oct. 23 James Hogg, *The Private Memoirs and Confessions of a Justified Sinner*,
5-108

Wk. 10

Oct. 28 *Confessions of a Justified Sinner*, 108-189

Oct. 30 *Confessions of a Justified Sinner*

Wk. 11

Nov. 4 Research Instruction

Nov. 6 Library Meeting with Rachel Ernst, Librarian for English and Reference
Librarian for Special Collections

Wk. 12

Nov. 11 Research Instruction

Nov. 13 Library Meeting with Rachel Ernst, Librarian for English and Reference
Librarian for Special Collections

Wk. 13

Nov. 18 Workshop

Nov. 20 Individual Conferences

Wk. 14

Nov. 25 Workshop

Nov. 27 Individual Conferences

THANKSGIVING BREAK – Nov. 28-30

Wk. 15

Dec. 2 Presentations

Dec. 4 Presentations

FINAL PAPER DUE – Fri. Dec. 13