

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: Vamps and Villains: Exploring Gothic Fiction
Status: Definitive
Code: **6036ENGLIS** (117983)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2019

Owning School/Faculty: Humanities and Social Science
Teaching School/Faculty: Humanities and Social Science

Team	Leader
Sondeep Kandola	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ6
Credit Value: 24
Total Delivered Hours: 57
Total Learning Hours: 240
Private Study: 183

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	13
Online	16
Seminar	26
Tutorial	2

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	AS1	Critical Analysis (1500 words)	25	
Essay	AS2	Essay (3000 words)	65	
Presentation	AS3	Student Presentations	10	

Aims

To critically examine the enduring popularity of the genre of Gothic fiction as it has developed over the last two centuries

To explore the cultural, historical and intellectual contexts that shape the moment of its production

To critique the genre from a variety of theoretical perspectives in order to build on the degree's foundations in the history of print cultures and reading, critical theory and intertextuality

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Critically review the development of Gothic fiction over two centuries;
- 2 Critically evaluate the gothic genre, integrating new concepts from literary theory, print culture and theories of intertextuality;
- 3 Accept complete accountability for planning and delivering an in-class student led presentation.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

Critical Analysis (1500 words)	1
Essay (3000 words)	2
Student Presentations	3

Outline Syllabus

1. *Introduction- Formulating the Gothic Mode, 1764- 1834*
2. *Legacies of the Past: Edgar Allen Poe 'The Fall of the House of Usher' (1839)*
3. *Deviant Sexualities: Sheridan Le Fanu, 'Carmilla' (1872)*
4. *Art and Vice: Oscar Wilde: The Picture of Dorian Gray (1890)*
5. *Imperial Others: Oscar Wilde, The Picture of Dorian Gray (1890)*
6. *Reading Week*
7. *Technologies of Monstrosity: Bram Stoker, Dracula (1897)*
8. *Revisiting Bluebeard's Castle: Daphne Du Maurier, Rebecca (1938)*
9. *Feminist Horror: Selected stories from Angela Carter's The Bloody Chamber (1979)*
10. *Pre-millennial tension: Film showing, Francis Ford Coppola's Bram Stoker's Dracula (1993)*
11. *Vampire Prom: Stephenie Meyer, Twilight (2005)*

Learning Activities

Lectures, workshops, seminars

Notes

This module seeks to understand why and how the Gothic genre has been

continuously remodelled by successive generations of writers who all lay claim to different kinds of audiences (highbrow, the popular, and teenage). Moreover, the module explores how the Gothic appears to offer not only a highly sensationalised, if often displaced, engagement with the socio-historical contexts of the day but also dramatises the way that the historical past continues to shape the present. And in its exploration of the genre's deployment of supernatural figures such as the vampire, this module will examine the ways in which the Gothic looks to such imagined entities not only to dramatisise societal fears about taboo subjects such as incest and rape but also allows for an encoded articulation, to varying degrees, of desires that transgress the normative.