COURSE DETAIL

GOTHIC FICTIONS
Country Netherlands
Host Institution Utrecht University – University College Utrecht
Program(s) University College Utrecht
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) English Comparative Literature
UCEAP Course Number 131
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title GOTHIC FICTIONS
UCEAP Transcript Title GOTHIC FICTIONS
UCEAP Quarter Units 6.00
UCEAP Semester Units 4.00

Course Description

The course provides a thorough introduction to key texts in gothic fiction (1770-present) and in gothic criticism. In this course, study the Gothic mostly in literature, with several excursions to other media, for the gothic is also found in painting, architecture, film, popular music and fashion. Gothic provides the imaginative space to explore the blurring boundaries between the real and the imagined, the visible and the invisible, reason and emotion, the political and the personal, the living and the (un)dead. Gothic has been regarded as a mode to express and channel cultural fears about repressed colonial histories, vicious aspects of family life, prohibited sexuality, and silenced gender. Alternatively, it has been read as confirming protestant, middle-class and heterosexual norms and values. In this course we will try to account for these ambiguities and related questions in our close readings of Gothic novels, stories, poems and films. There are two seminar-style classes per week, and students are expected to do all assigned reading in advance of each session. Because the course is dynamic and discussion-based, there is a focus on partner/small-group work and short writing exercises. Students are responsible for starting off the group discussions on the literature for an assigned session as well as bringing to class any specific questions related to the material.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
UCHUMLIT32

Host Institution Course Title
GOTHIC FICTIONS

Host Institution Course Details
https://cursusplanner.uu.nl/Curriculum

Host Institution Campus
University College Utrecht

Host Institution Faculty
Humanities

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
LITERATURE

Course Last Reviewed
2025-2026

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