

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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