

**Course Descriptions for Graduate English Courses**  
**January Intersession 2014**

**ENGL 5723/6733 Southern Gothic**

**Teacher: L. Hinrichsen**

**Required Texts:**

Edgar Allan Poe, *The Gold-Bug and Other Tales* (Dover; 978-0486268750)

Flannery O'Connor, *A Good Man is Hard to Find and Other Stories* (Harcourt  
Brace; 978-0156364652)

Christ Baldick, Ed. *The Oxford Book of Gothic Tales* (Oxford UP 978-  
0199561537)

Additional texts will be posted on Blackboard.

**Description:** As Teresa Goddu, Joan Dayan, and Harry Levin have noted, the gothic, as an elastic concept, plays a special role in representing the historically oppositional identity of the U.S. South, framing it as a dark other, a spatial repository for cultural contradictions that must be disavowed to enable a national mythology of innocence. This course will explore southern gothic fiction, poetry and cinema from the nineteenth-century to the present, investigating the cultural preoccupations, anxieties and political fantasies registered in this literary mode.

**Course Requirements:**

Daily quizzes, response papers, course discussion, final exam.