

Undergraduate and Graduate Course Description Packet
Summer 2021
Updated: 3/19/21

ENGL 3283-012, Popular Culture and Popular Genres: *Horror Film*

ENGL 4933-012, Studies in Popular Culture and Popular Genres: *Horror Film*

Instructor: K. Booker

Textbooks Required:

None. Electronic textbooks will be supplied free of charge.

Description: This course is intended to provide a general historical survey of the American horror film, one of the most important and popular genres in Hollywood history. The course will have core areas of emphasis, such as new Hollywood Horror and Postmodern Horror, though the exact contents have yet to be determined. The tentative list of films being considered for viewing and discussion includes the following:

New Hollywood Horror

Rosemary's Baby (1968)
Night of the Living Dead (1968)
The Exorcist (1973)
The Texas Chain Saw Massacre (1974)
Carrie (1976)
Halloween (1978)
The Shining (1980)

Psychological Horror Films

Mother! (2017)
Hereditary (2018)
The Lighthouse (2019)
Joker (2019)

Postmodern Horror Films

Scream (1996)
Drag Me to Hell (2009)
It Follows (2014)
Get Out (2017)
Us (2019)

Essays, exams, and other major requirements for undergraduates: One critical essay (5-6 pages), final exam, active participation in class discussions.

Prerequisite: TBD

ENGL 5243-011, Special Topics: *Tristram Shandy*

Instructor: B. Hurt

Textbooks Required:

Sterne, Laurence, *Tristram Shandy* (Norton Critical Editions), 978-0393921366

Sterne, Laurence, *A Sentimental Journey*, 978-014043779

Description: “Shall we forever make new books as apothecaries make new mixtures, by pouring only out of one vessel into another?” – *The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy, Gentleman*

Chaotic, full of digressions, delays, jokes, and obscenities, *Tristram Shandy* is a book like no other. Early readers were engrossed and frustrated alike by Sterne’s wild and experimental novel. Contemporaries like Samuel Richardson called it “execrable,” while writers and philosophers from Karl Marx to Friedrich Nietzsche to James Joyce, Virginia Woolf, Milan Kundera, and Salman Rushdie have counted themselves among Sterne’s dedicated devotees. The novel anticipated and invented literary techniques later adopted by modernists and postmodernists (“it was postmodern before there was a modern to post about”) and raised questions about the relationship between art and life, genre, and originality that are still being debated about contemporary bestsellers (see our continuing obsession with autofiction, and perennial scandals about fictionalized memoirs). This class will offer a deep dive into Sterne’s magnum opus with occasional digressions. We’ll ask questions about the line between fiction and nonfiction, authenticity, and what a 250-year-old book can tell us about the past, present, and future of the novel.

Essays, exams, and other major requirements for undergraduates: TBD

MA advisory codes:

Generalist C: satisfies **Restoration and 18th-century Literature and Culture** requirement.

M.A. Advisory Coding

The advisory codes indicate what course distribution requirement will be satisfied by the designated listing. If more than one code is listed in the description for a particular class, a student may satisfy only one of those distribution requirements with that class, unless the code is T, for Theory.

For M.A. Students with the Generalist Concentration

Generalist **A**: satisfies **Medieval** Literature and Culture requirement.

Generalist **B**: satisfies **Renaissance** Literature and Culture requirement.

Generalist **C**: satisfies **Restoration and 18th-century** Literature and Culture requirement.

Generalist **D**: satisfies **19th-century British** Literature and Culture requirement.

Generalist **E**: satisfies **British** Literature and Culture **After 1900** requirement.

Generalist **F**: satisfies **American** Literature and Culture **Before 1900** requirement.

Generalist **G**: satisfies **American** Literature and Culture **After 1900** requirement.

Generalist **H**: satisfies **World** Literature and Culture Written in English requirement.

For M.A. Students with the Specialist Concentration

Specialist **1**: satisfies **Comparative** Literature requirement.

Specialist **2**: satisfies **Cultural** Studies requirement.

Specialist **3**: satisfies **Environmental** Literature, Writing, and Culture.

Specialist **4**: satisfies **Ethnic and Regional** Literatures requirement.

Specialist **5**: satisfies **Gender and Sexuality** requirement.

Specialist **6**: satisfies **Medieval** Literature requirement.

Specialist **7**: satisfies **Modern American** Literature requirement.

Specialist **8**: satisfies **Religion** and Literature requirement.

Specialist **9**: satisfies **Rhetoric, Composition, and Literacy** requirement.

For All M.A. Students

(T): satisfies Theory requirement. (A course can satisfy the theory requirement while also satisfying one of the other requirements in the lists above.)