

**Carleton University
Department of English
Early Summer 2014**

**ENGL 2005A Theory and Criticism
Critical Approaches to Horror and the Fantastic**

[Prerequisite: 1.0 credit in ENGL at the 1000 level]

Time: 11:25 a.m. – 2:25 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday

Location: Paterson Hall 201

Professor: B. Johnson

Office: 1917DT

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Office Hours: TBA

Email: brian_johnson@carleton.ca

For More Details, Visit the COURSE WEBSITE:

<http://engl2005.wordpress.com/>



"I suddenly arose in my ghostly attire and in a moment was upon him."—Page—

An introduction to theories and methods of literary analysis through the study of ghost stories and horror fiction. Students will explore some of the major approaches to literary and cultural analysis, including: narratology, structuralism/poststructuralism, psychoanalysis, feminism, queer theory, critical race theory, Marxism, and ecocriticism. As we examine the kinds of questions that each of these approaches helps us to pose about literary texts, we will think

about how such theorizing helps to illuminate the complex relationship between literary form, subjectivity, ethics, and ideology in late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century texts that emphasize fantastic or supernatural elements. Our engagement with literary theory and criticism will also involve an exploration of the disciplinary history of English studies and a look at the debates around the function and value of studying English. Recommended for English Majors.

TEXTS (Available at the Campus Bookstore)

Peter Barry, *Beginning Theory: An Introduction to Literary and Cultural Theory*, Third Edition (Manchester)

John Grafton (ed.), *Great Ghost Stories* (Dover)

M. R. James, *Casting the Runes and Other Ghost Stories* (Oxford)

Angela Carter, *The Bloody Chamber* (Penguin)

H. P. Lovecraft, *The Call of Cthulhu and Other Weird Stories* (Penguin)

METHOD OF EVALUATION

Essay #1	A formalist reading of a selected ghost story that demonstrates awareness of the links between structure, theme, motifs, and effect. Topics TBA.	1250 words	20%	TBA
Essay #2	A theoretically-informed reading of a selected story. Topics TBA.	2500 words	40%	TBA
Final Exam*	Passage Identifications and Commentaries / Essay	3 hrs.	40%	TBA

***The final exam and airplane ticket bookings:** The final exam period is from June 20-26, 2014. Since the Registrar's Office does not set exam dates until well into the term, you must plan to be available throughout the entire examination period. Do not purchase plane tickets with departure dates prior to June 27, 2014. Exams will not be rescheduled for students who take on other commitments.

COURSE PROCEDURES, GRADES, AND GRADING

Basic Preparation: As a matter of course you are expected to: (1) attend the lectures, (2) complete the scheduled readings beforehand, (3) arrive prepared to discuss what you have read, (4) bring the relevant text(s) to class. It is strongly recommended that you take detailed notes on the lectures and keep a record of the passages we discuss in class. Writing in the margins of your books and marking off key passages as you read is also a good idea.

Handing In Assignments: Assignments are due in class on the dates indicated. However, they can be handed in without penalty until 8:00 a.m. the morning *after* the due date, via the English Department's drop box, located on the 18th floor of Dunton Tower. Please do not slip the assignment under my office door. Emailed or faxed assignments are not acceptable and will not be marked. Keep a back-up copy of every assignment you hand in as an insurance policy in the highly unlikely event that I misplace your work.

Confirming Receipt of Assignment: Upon receipt of your assignment, I will enter a note ("R") in the cuLearn gradebook for this class, confirming that I have it. It is your responsibility to check the gradebook the following afternoon to make sure your assignment has been

received. In the unlikely event that it has gone astray, email me the completed assignment immediately and bring a hard copy to the next class.

Late Penalty: Except in rare cases for which corroborating documentation can be provided (such as a medical emergency or the death of an immediate family member), assignments handed in after the due date will be penalized by 1/3 of a letter grade per day. For example, a B+ essay due on Monday but handed in on Tuesday afternoon would drop to a B. If it wasn't handed in until Wednesday it would receive a B-, etc. Saturday and Sunday count as 1 day each, so if you find yourself in the position of finishing up your late essay on Saturday afternoon and don't want to lose 1/3 of a grade for Sunday too, email me the completed assignment immediately and submit an identical hard copy to the drop box on Monday. Late essays will be graded, but will not receive comments.

Extensions: Requests for extension may be granted in some instances, but only for compelling reasons. Any such request must be made in writing or in person to the professor (not one of the TAs) no later than 48 hours prior to the due date of the assignment. Requests for "retroactive" extensions (i.e. requests made on or after the due date of the essay) will not be considered.

Grading Criteria: Grades for term work will be based on insightfulness, originality, focus, organization of ideas, clarity of expression, scholarly rigor, correct use of MLA style, spelling, and grammar.

Grade Scale:

A+	90-100	12
A	85-89	11
A-	80-84	10
B+	77-79	9
B	73-76	8
B-	70-72	7
C+	67-69	6
C	63-66	5
C-	60-62	4
D+	57-59	3
D	53-56	2
D-	50-52	1
F	0-49	0

Plagiarism: Plagiarism means passing off someone else's words or ideas as your own or submitting the same work in two different academic contexts (self-plagiarism). The consequences of plagiarism are severe and are issued by the Dean and the University Senate. In order to avoid plagiarism, you must correctly attribute the sources of the ideas you pick up from books, the internet, and other people. For additional information, consult the section on Instructional Offenses in the *Undergraduate Calendar*.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term because of disability, pregnancy or religious obligations. Please review the course outline promptly and write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist.

Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Documented disabilities could include but are not limited to mobility/physical impairments, specific Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/psychological disabilities, sensory disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and chronic medical conditions. Registered PMC students are required to contact the PMC, 613-520-6608, every term to ensure that your Instructor receives your Letter of Accommodation, no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations. If you only require accommodations for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodations to PMC by the last official day to withdraw from classes in each term.

You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at <http://carleton.ca/equity/accommodation>