**ENGL 3300: Gothic Literature**

Fall 2017

**Instructor:** Dr. Rechelle Christie

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**Office Hours:** TH 12:30PM-2:00 PM or by appointment

**Section Information:** ENGL 3300.001

**Time and Place of Class Meetings:** TuTh 11:00AM - 12:20PM, TH 216

**Course prerequisites**: For English majors, ENGL 2350; for non-majors, 6 hours of sophomore literature or 3 hours of sophomore literature with a grade of A.

**Course Description and Learning Outcomes:** This course will explore the cultural significance of Gothic literature and how the texts within the genre create a complex dialogue within cultural and historical contexts.  By the end of the course, students should be able to effectively analyze Gothic texts and articulate both orally and in writing how the Gothic tradition works to reveal cultural anxieties.

***Some words on the Gothic:*** Transforming day into night is the function of the Gothic; it reaches into the shadows of the imagination in order to call into question what is perceived as stable fixed and regulated. While the Gothic is primarily considered a genre of sensation and mere entertainment as it readily provides audiences a means of escaping from reality, scholars in various fields have begun to carefully rethink the purpose and historical function of the Gothic. According to David Punter and Glennis Byron, authors of *The* *Gothic*, the genre provides an available means for speaking the “unspeakable.” Furthermore, they argue, the Gothic “re-emerges with particular force during times of cultural crisis” in order to negotiate the anxieties of an age through displacement (39). By considering the Gothic through Punter and Byron’s conception of the genre, we can begin to explore the Gothic as a form of social critique and public argument. Bram Stoker’s *Dracula*, for example, tells us as much about Victorian England as it does about the supernatural. Contemporary manifestations of the Gothic, such as Stephenie Meyer’s *Twilight* series and film productions like *Underworld*, function similar to Stoker’s text; however, they reveal *current* cultural anxieties and social critiques, as all texts are reflections of the age in which they are produced. While this course primarily investigates Gothic texts produced in the late Victorian age, we will also consider how the Gothic functions in contemporary culture and how we all are personally tied to this unique and enduring genre.

**Required Texts:**

* Riggs, Ransom*. Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children*. Quirk Books, 2013
* Rowlings, J.K. *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*. Scholastic, 2000
* \* Stevenson, Robert Louis. *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*. Broadview Press. 3rd edition, 2015,  ISBN: 9781554810246
* \* Stoker, Bram.  *Dracula*. W.W. Norton & Co., 1996, ISBN: 978-0-393-97012-8
* \* Wilde, Oscar. *The Picture of Dorian Gray*. 1890. W.W. Norton & Co. 2nd edition, 2006, ISBN: 978-0-393-92754-2
* Etexts as assigned

*Note about course texts*: Students should only purchase the edition listed if a textbook is preceded by an asterisk (see above). Also, students must read *all* assigned course texts (There will be no substitutions of texts). If a student feels s/he cannot abide by this course policy, s/he should drop the course. It is the student’s responsibility to drop the course on or before the official university drop date. See more about UTA’s drop policy below.

**Attendance:** At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required. Rather, each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students’ academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, I will take attendance at the beginning of each class meeting. For this reason, please be on time if not early to class. Also, keep in mind that in order to do well students must attend class regularly. Habitual tardiness and/or unexcused absences will impact your performance in the course.

**Grading Policy**:

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| Gothic Analysis 1 | 15% |
| Gothic Analysis 2 | 15% |
| Final Gothic Analysis | 35% |
| Quizzes | 15% |
| Oral Presentation | 10% |
| Class Participation | 10% |

Essays are out-of-class writing assignments. Quizzes are typically unannounced and given at the beginning of class. Please note that students must be present for the duration of the class in order to receive credit for a quiz, unless a university-approved excuse is presented before class or a student can provide official documentation of an emergency. Also, paper quizzes will not be returned to students, but students are welcome to visit with the instructor during office hours to view graded paper quizzes and discuss quiz evaluations. Class participation is evaluated on attendance and the quality and thoughtfulness of students' in-class responses to course topics and readings. Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels; see “Student Support Services,” below.

**Late Assignments:**  All assignments, essays, quizzes, and exams are due on the specified due date (See the Course Calendar). Except for documented emergencies and university approved absences, late assignments will not be accepted. Students presenting documentation are required to complete assignments in the time frame specified by the instructor.

**Blackboard:** While this course meets twice a week face-to-face, it will also utilize Blackboard for housing important documents (such as the class syllabus, course calendar, and assigned readings) and posting important course announcements. Students will also use Blackboard to submit assignments/essays (All assignments should be submitted **before** class on the specified due date). **Emailed essays and assignments will also not be accepted,** unless permission prior to the due date is granted by the instructor or the student has uploaded the wrong assignment to Blackboard (see below for more information about uploading wrong assignments). Please note that assignments cannot be resubmitted past the deadline because a student failed to upload the correct assignment to Blackboard. I encourage you to check your submission immediately after posting it to Blackboard to ensure it is the correct document. If you discover that you have uploaded the wrong document, you must email the correct document (the document you would like graded) to your instructor BEFORE the deadline.

**Syllabus and Schedule Changes:** Instructors try to make their syllabuses and course calendars as complete as possible; however, during the course of the semester, they may be required to alter, add, or abandon certain policies, assignments, and/or schedules.  Instructors reserve the right to make such changes as they become necessary.

**Electronic Devices:**  If you choose to use a laptop or an electronic reading device in class, please note that I will check to see if you are on task. Checking email and social networks or engaging in other electronic activities not related to classroom activities will significantly impact your participation grade. Please note that I decide which activities are considered on task.

**Drop Policy:** Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance**. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

**Disability Accommodations:** **UT** Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including *The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA),* and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.* All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a letter certified by the **Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD).**Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

**The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD)**  [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or calling 817-272-3364.

**Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS)**   [www.uta.edu/caps/](http://www.uta.edu/caps/) or calling 817-272-3671.

Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

**Non-Discrimination Policy:** The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit [uta.edu/eos](http://www.uta.edu/hr/eos/index.php).

**Title IX Policy:** The University of Texas at Arlington (“University”) is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated. *For information regarding Title IX, visit* [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX) or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or [jmhood@uta.edu](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Crechelle%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CTemporary%20Internet%20Files%5CContent.IE5%5C4BJFTU71%5Cjmhood%40uta.edu).

**Classroom Decorum:** Language that demeans people on the basis of race, religion, ethnicity, gender, sexual preference, or age will **NOT** be tolerated in this class. Students are expected to participate respectfully in class, to listen to other class members, and to comment appropriately. I also expect consideration and courtesy from students. Professors are to be addressed appropriately and communicated with professionally.

According to *Student Conduct and Discipline*, "students are prohibited from engaging in or attempting to engage in conduct, either alone or in concert with others, that is intended to obstruct, disrupt, or interfere with, or that in fact obstructs, disrupts, or interferes with any instructional, educational, research, administrative, or public performance or other activity authorized to be conducted in or on a University facility. Obstruction or disruption includes, but is not limited to, any act that interrupts, modifies, or damages utility service or equipment, communication service or equipment, or computer equipment, software, or networks (UTA Handbook or Operating Procedures, Ch. 2, Sec. 2-202). Students who do not respect the guidelines listed above or who disrupt other students’ learning may be asked to leave class and/or referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

**Academic Integrity:** Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents’ Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university’s standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student’s suspension or expulsion from the University.

**WHAT CONSTITUTES SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY?**

Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion on an examination or an assignment being offered for credit. Each student is accountable for work submitted for credit, including group projects.

**Cheating**

* Copying another's test or assignment
* Communication with another during an exam or assignment (i.e. written, oral or otherwise)
* Giving or seeking aid from another when not permitted by the instructor
* Possessing or using unauthorized materials during the test
* Buying, using, stealing, transporting, or soliciting a test, draft of a test, or answer key

**Plagiarism**

* Using someone else's work in your assignment without appropriate acknowledgement
* Making slight variations in the language and then failing to give credit to the source
* Resubmitting work, in whole or in part, that has already been accepted for credit in current or past courses

**Collusion**

* Without authorization, collaborating with another when preparing an assignment

**Electronic Communication:** UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox daily. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

**Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” shall be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

**Final Review Week:** A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

**Emergency Exit Procedures:** Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

**Campus Carry:**  Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law  (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/>

**Student Support Services**: UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php

**The IDEAS Center (**2nd Floor of Central Library) offers **free** tutoring to all students with a focus on transfer students, sophomores, veterans and others undergoing a transition to UT Arlington. To schedule an appointment with a peer tutor or mentor email IDEAS@uta.edu or call (817) 272-6593.

**The English Writing Center (411LIBR)**: Hours are 9 am to 8 pm Mondays-Thursdays, 9 am to 3 pm Fridays and Noon to 5 pm Saturdays and Sundays. Walk In ***Quick Hits*** sessions during all open hours Mon-Thurs. Register and make appointments online at [http://uta.mywconline.com](http://uta.mywconline.com/). Classroom Visits, Workshops, and advanced services for graduate students and faculty are also available. Please see [www.uta.edu/owl](http://www.uta.edu/owl) for detailed information.

**Emergency Phone Numbers**: In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at **817-272-3003** (non-campus phone), **2-3003** (campus phone). You may also dial 911. Non-emergency number 817-272-3381.