

# **FILM 120 - Horror Film Course Outline**

**Approval Date:** 03/12/2020

**Effective Date:** 08/14/2020

## **SECTION A**

**Unique I.912 03.7.n**

**Distance Education Mode of Instruction** On-Campus  
Hybrid  
Entirely Online

**SECTION B**

**General Education Information:**

**SECTION C**

**Course Description**

**Repeatability** May be repeated 0 times

**Catalog Description** This course offers an in-depth examination of the popular horror film through an analysis of its historical evolution, major theories, aesthetics and conventions, and the impact of its role as a reflection of culture & society.

**Schedule Description**

- c. Horror vs. Terror
  - d. Early gothic filmmaking
- C. Monsters & the Other
  - a. The era of the physical monster
  - b. Repression & the Other
  - c. Monsters, Ghosts & Creatures
- D. The Science-fiction Subgenre
  - a. The era of the science monster
  - b. Space flight films
  - c. Alien invasion films
  - d. Futuristic society films
  - e. Social anxiety in the 1950s
- E. Psychological Horror
  - a. The era of the internal monster
  - b. Human, psychologically complex monsters
  - c. Psychological horror as an exploration of the self
- F. Slasher Horror
  - a. The era of gore
  - b. Carol Clover's five slasher film conventions
  - c. Gender fluidity & spectator identification
- G. Technology as Monster
  - a. New technologies & the effect on the industry
  - b. Increased visual violence against the human body
  - c. The human body as the site of monstrosity

**7. Methods of Evaluation:** Describe the general types of evaluations for this course and provide at least two, specific examples.

**Typical classroom assessment techniques**

Quizzes -- Quiz after each unit of study. Quizzes may include both objective and essay style questions.

Research Projects -- Research paper or other writing project that develop a related topic.

Class Participation --

Final Exam --

Mid Term -- Midterm may include both objective and essay style questions. For example, students must choose one of two possible questions to answer in essay form. Students must incorporate the reading materials, lecture notes, and at least one outside source to analyze of one of the films screened in class.

Additional assessment information:

Participation in class discussions.

Letter Grade or P/NP

**8. Assignments:** State the general types of assignments for this course under the following categories and provide at least two specific examples for each section.

A. Reading Assignments

Selected readings from textbook, course reader, library resources, and in-class handouts.

Example:

1. Read Susan Hayward "Imaginary/Symbolic" in the course reader.

2. Read "Introduction" and "Kristeva, Femininity, Abjection" in your textbook *The Monstrous Feminine* by Barbara Creed

B. Writing Assignments

Written evaluations of films viewed in class.

Example:

Choose one of the following questions and answer in a 4-5 page essay.

1. Analyze one of the films from week two (*Nosferatu* or *The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari*) as an example of the gothic aesthetic. What is significant about the theme, setting, and characters? How do these elements come together to create a sense of the gothic as defined by Allan Lloyd Smith? Use examples from the film to support your analysis.

2. Discuss Robin Wood's conception of the Other as it applies to one of the films from week three (*Freaks* or *Frankenstein*). Identify the repressed and oppressive elements in

