

# HORROR IN LITERATURE

This course focuses on developing and strengthening your writing and critical thinking skills. These skills are foundational to our abilities to share our original thoughts and analysis with the world around us. We will develop these skills together by exploring the idea of horror in literature. As a class, we'll ask: What is horror? What scares us and why? What are these fears saying about the current moment in our society? The horror genre provides space to explore questions of identity, gender, sexuality, personal beliefs, and political ideologies. In particular, horror is a genre that effectively creates space for dialogue for marginalized perspectives. We will explore the visceral effects and probing questions of this genre together through a series of reflections, response papers, and longer essays.

Through the lens of horror, we will approach writing as a process, one that includes revision as a natural part of this process. Together, we will analyze short stories, articles, images, films, and one novel-length work of fiction. While this syllabus serves as our guide for the course, know that it is a living document, subject to change as we learn and grow together.

The subjects we will be exploring together are not easy topics to unpack. We will approach these topics thoughtfully and with care. I am always available to discuss the course material and often utilize [Does The Dog Die?](#) as a way to preview “crowdsourced emotional spoilers for movies, tv, books, and more.”

## Catalog Statement:

Practice in expository composition based on critical reading of various academic texts and one book-length work. Develop skills in writing effectively, reading carefully, and thinking clearly.

## Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Reading - Analyze college-level texts by identifying and evaluating main ideas, audience, purpose, organization, strength of evidence, and rhetorical strategies.
2. Writing - Write coherent, thesis-driven academic prose that is grammatically and syntactically appropriate.
3. Research - Gather, evaluate, and synthesize sources in an appropriately documented essay.
4. Process/Writing - Apply knowledge of writing as a process that includes revision