On Christmas Day, 1764 Horace Walpole published The Castle of Otranto, the very first Gothic novel. The Gothic flourished especially in the nineteenth century, creating a whole vocabulary of new creatures and landscapes and two of the great books of the genre: Frankenstein And Dracula. This course concentrates on the great works of Gothic which are central to an understanding of literature, film, early Romanticism and popular culture. Looking specifically at the works of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries we will also explore how those texts were reinvented for film and what new elements were added in the twentieth century.

Using a selection of texts and using a variety of approaches from the historical to the post modern and the feminist to queer theory we will explore the multifarious levels of meaning in Gothic texts as well as looking at narrative strategies and a variety of themes including the political and revolutionary, the erotic and the exotic, the Promethian and the undead, the role of religion, the role of women, the Wandering Jew and the ‘mock’ medieval.

The student will have a clear knowledge of the major texts in the genre

The student will have a clear knowledge of the criticism (both historical and contemporary) in the genre

The student will be able to put forward an intellectual argument based on the course

The student will have gained an insight into one facet of British popular literature

Failure to submit or fulfil any required course component results in failure of the class.

Grade A: Well researched and originally argued essay, the student understanding the question and applying theoretical and conceptual issues in the answer. Good grammar and spelling and an excellent
**Expectations**

Grade B: A good attempt at the question showing understanding and a reasonable application of background research and reading. Reasonable use of quotations, good spelling and grammar and a properly presented bibliography. Marked by occasional lapses of English and a tendency to become general.

Grade C: Some general research and an attempt at argument. Nevertheless mostly narrative essay which misses some essential elements of the question.

Grade D: Lacking in research and argument. Mostly narrative essay with poor spelling and grammar and lack of attention to essential details. Nevertheless, an attempt to answer the question, although in a vague and general manner.

Grade F: Lacking in research and argument. Misunderstanding of the question set. Mostly narrative essay with poor spelling and grammar and lack of attention to essential details. Unacknowledged quotations and mistakes.

NYU in London aims to have grading standards and results in all its courses similar to those that prevail at Washington Square.

**Required Text(s)**

   Gothic Histories: the taste for terror, 1764 to the present -
   https://ezproxy.library.nyu.edu/login?URL=https://getit.library.nyu.edu/go/9362750
2. Three Gothic Novels (Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1986)
5. John Polidori, 'The Vampyre' in The Vampyre and Other Writings (Fyfield Books.

NOTE alternative editions may be bought but be careful they are not abridged. MANY OF THESE TITLES MAY BE DOWNLOADED FOR FREE

**Supplemental Text(s) (not required to purchase as copies are in NYU-L Library)**


**Internet Research Guidelines**

NONE

**Additional Required Equipment**

NONE

**Session 1**

3 Feb
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 2</th>
<th>Horace Walpole, The Castle of Otranto and John Polidori, ‘The Vampyre’</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 Feb</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 3</td>
<td>William Beckford, Vathek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Feb</td>
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<tr>
<td>Session 4</td>
<td>Vathek and gothic film</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 Feb</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 5</td>
<td>Ann Radcliffe, The Mysteries of Udolpho (Book 1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 March</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 6</td>
<td>Ann Radcliffe, The Mysteries of Udolpho (Book 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 March</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 7</td>
<td>Matthew Lewis, The Monk</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 March</td>
<td>ESSAY ONE DUE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Session 8</td>
<td>Mary Shelley, Frankenstein; Frankenstein (1931)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 March</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Session 9</td>
<td>Mary Shelley, Frankenstein; Bride of Frankenstein, (1935)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 April</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 10</td>
<td>VISIT TO HIGHGATE CEMETERY: provisional only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 April</td>
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<tr>
<td>Session 11</td>
<td>Edgar Allan Poe, Ligeia and Fall of the House of Usher (also read Thomas de Quincey, Confessions of an English Opium Eater)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 April</td>
<td>VISIT TO STRAWBERRY HILL HOUSE – provisional only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 April</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 13</td>
<td>Dracula</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 May</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 14</td>
<td>Dracula - HAND IN DATE FOR SECOND ESSAY DAY AFTER CLASS AT NOON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 May</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Session 15
Final exam: 1 hour, 1 question
18 May

Classroom Etiquette
Eating is not permitted in any classrooms in 6 Bedford Square or at Birkbeck College. Please kindly dispose of rubbish in the bins provided.

Required Co-curricular Activities
Visit to Highgate Cemetery  WEDNESDAY 13 APRIL – provisional
Visit to Strawberry Hill House  WEDNESDAY 27 APRIL - provisional

Estimated Travel Costs
Oyster card

Suggested Co-curricular Activities
NONE

Academic Integrity
At NYU, a commitment to excellence, fairness, honesty, and respect within and outside the classroom is essential to maintaining the integrity of our community. By accepting membership in this community, students take responsibility for demonstrating these values in their own conduct and for recognizing and supporting these values in others.

At NYU London, students will submit electronic copies of their written work to Turnitin via their NYU Classes course site. Instructions will be provided to you separately.

Late Submission of Work
Written work due in class must be submitted during the class time to the professor. Late work should be submitted in person to a member of NYU London staff in the Academic Office (Room 308, 6 Bedford Square) during office hours (Mon – Fri, 10:00 – 17:00). Please also send an electronic copy to academics@nyu.ac.uk for submission to Turnitin.

Work submitted within 5 weekdays after the submission time without an agreed extension receives a penalty of 10 points on the 100 point scale.

Written work submitted more than 5 weekdays after the submission date without an agreed extension fails and is given a zero.

Please note end of semester essays must be submitted on time.

Attendance Policy
Study abroad at Global Academic Centres is an academically intensive and immersive experience. Learning in such an environment depends on the active participation of all students. As classes typically meet once a week, even a single absence can cause a student to miss a significant portion of a course.

To ensure the integrity of this academic experience, class attendance is mandatory and unexcused absences will be penalized with a two percent deduction from the student's final course grade. Students are responsible for
making up any work missed due to absence. Repeated absences in a course may result in failure.

**How to report an absence**
Absences from class must be reported to NYU London administrative staff using the **online Absence Form**: [http://tinyurl.com/nyulabsence](http://tinyurl.com/nyulabsence)

**Absences can ONLY be excused if they are reported using this form.** Students should NOT approach their class instructor for an excused absence. However, students should contact their class instructor to catch up on missed work.

**Medical absences**
If you are unable to attend a class due to ill-health, you must provide details of your illness and class(es) missed to NYUL staff using the online Absence Form **WITHIN SEVEN DAYS** of your return to class.

**Please do not use the form to report a medical emergency or to request urgent assistance.** In a medical emergency call 999 and ask for an ambulance. NYU London staff are available to offer support, whatever time of day. If you would like to speak to a member of staff urgently to request support with a medical problem, please call 0800 316 0469, selecting option 2.

**Non-medical absences**
If you have to miss class for an unavoidable, non-medical reason you must provide details to NYUL staff using the online Absence Form **at least SEVEN DAYS PRIOR** to the date(s) in question. Examples of valid non-medical reasons are as follows: religious holiday; family wedding; scholarship competition; family emergency. If in doubt please speak to a member of Academics staff or email academics@nyu.ac.uk. Failure to provide requested documentation for these types of absences will result in the absence remaining unexcused.

**Further information regarding absences**
**NYU London staff carefully monitor student attendance and absence records.** In most cases full completion of the online Absence Form will be sufficient to excuse your absence. However, in certain circumstances, you will be asked to provide additional information/verification before it can be excused. If we notice that you have multiple absences you will be contacted to arrange a meeting with a member of staff.

**Unexcused absences from exams are not permitted and will result in failure of the exam.** Students may not take an exam before or after other students in the class, and may not leave the programme before all course work has been submitted.

Please refer to the NYU Wikis Page for the full absence policy: [https://wikis.nyu.edu/x/awRgAw](https://wikis.nyu.edu/x/awRgAw)

Students observing a religious holiday during regularly scheduled class time are entitled to miss class without any penalty to their grade. This is for the holiday only and does not include the days of travel that may come before and/or after the holiday. Students must notify their professor and the Office of Academic Support in writing via email one week in advance before being absent for this purpose.

Students with disabilities who believe that they may need accommodations in a class are encouraged to contact the Moses Center for Students with Disabilities at (212) 998-4980 as soon as possible to better ensure that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion. For more information, see [Study Away and Disability](#).
NYU in London uses the following scale of numerical equivalents to letter grades:

- **A=94-100**
- **A-=90-93**
- **B+=87-89**
- **B=84-86**
- **B-80-83**
- **C+=77-79**
- **C=74-76**
- **C-70-73**
- **D+=67-69**
- **D=65-66**
- **F=below 65**

Where no specific numerical equivalent is assigned to a letter grade by the class teacher, the midpoint of the range will be used in calculating the final class grade (except in the A range, where 95.5 will be used).

NYU in London aims to have grading standards and results in all its courses similar to those that prevail at Washington Square.

NYU requires all instructors to submit midterm grades for their students. Midterm grading is considered an educational best practice, and plays an important role in schools’ early intervention programs, which enable advisers to identify and to respond to students in crisis.