THE POPULAR GOTHIC NOVEL

PROF. DIVYA A
Type of Course: Rerun | Elective | UG | PG
COURSE DURATION: 12 weeks (26 Jul' 21 - 15 Oct' 21)
EXAM DATE: 24 Oct 2021

INTENDED AUDIENCE: UG and PG students of English Literature. Researchers in Gothic Studies. Faculty of Literature seeking specializing in Gothic Studies.

INDUSTRIES APPLICABLE TO: British Library, American Embassy

COURSE OUTLINE:
Contents of the Course

• The course discusses the defining traits of the popular gothic novel in the eighteenth and nineteenth-century English fiction.

• The course traces the structures and implications of the various plots of the popular gothic novel that caught the imagination of the reading public in the eighteenth and nineteenth-century Britain.

• The course introduces the students to a wide range of eighteenth and nineteenth-century novelists who were practitioners of the gothic genre such as Horace Walpole, Ann Radcliffe, Mathew Lewis, Bram Stoker, Mary Shelley, Wilkie Collins, Charles Dickens, and Charlotte Brontë.

ABOUT INSTRUCTOR:
Prof. Divya A is an Assistant Professor in English Literature in the Indian Institute of Technology Madras, India. Divyas research interests primarily revolve around explorations in the fields of gender, domesticity, spatiality, urbanism, and the interplay between the visual and the literary arts.

COURSE PLAN:

Week 1: Introduction to the Gothic: Gothic Motifs
Week 2: Ann Radcliffe, The Mysteries of Udolpho
The 'Explained Supernatural', Gothic Sublime, and Aristocratic Villainy
Week 3: Mary Shelley, Frankenstein
Female Gothic: Feminine Anxieties, Scientific Monsters, and Haunted Landscapes
Week 4: Jane Austen, Northanger Abbey
Mocking the Popular Gothic
Week 5: Emily Bronte, Wuthering Heights
Byronic hero and ghostly women: Realism, Fantasy, Violence, and Cruelty
Week 6: Charlotte Bronte, Jane Eyre
Gothic Symbolism and Rebellion
Week 7: Charles Dickens, A Christmas Carol
Grotesque Gothic: Spectral City, Allegory, and Morality
Week 8: Bram Stoker, Dracula
Vampires, Moral Degeneration, Late-Victorian Anxieties
Week 9: Wilkie Collins, The Moonstone
Imperial Gothic: Mysticism, Irrationality, Otherness and Empire
Week 10: Arthur Conan Doyle, The Hound of the Baskervilles
Gothic Crime: The Anxieties of the Past and the Future
Week 11: Oscar Wilde, The Picture of Dorian Gray
Gothic terror: Dark Ambition, Aesthetics and Degeneracy
Week 12: Accommodating the Gothic in Domestic Realism