



THE POPULAR GOTHIC NOVEL

PROF. DIVYA A

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
IIT Madras

TYPE OF COURSE : New | Elective | UG/PG

COURSE DURATION : 12 weeks (20 Jul' 20 - 9 Oct' 20)

EXAM DATE : 18 Oct 2020

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 at Indian Institute of Technology Madras. She completed her PhD from Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore in 2014.

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