THE POPULAR GOTHIC NOVEL

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