

## E 379N • Ghosts of the Gothic

**Instructor:** Farrell, J  
**Unique #:** 83327  
**Semester:** Summer 2010  
**Cross-lists:** None

**Areas:** III  
**Flags:** N/A  
**Restrictions:** None  
**Computer Instruction:** N

**Prerequisites:** Nine semester hours of coursework in English or rhetoric and writing.

**Description:** The genre of gothic literature developed in the late eighteenth century and flourished in the Romantic era. A reaction set in during the Victorian period against the extravagant style and world of mystery featured in gothic literature. Victorian writers in general sought what they considered a more realistic representation of human experience, one that was grounded in the norms of everyday life, rational thought, and contained passion. And yet the darker experiences and mysterious illuminations that dominated gothicism proved too compelling as possibilities even for the presumably anti-gothic art of the Victorians. As a result many Victorian writers, while supposedly subscribing to realism, remained tempted by the portraits of inner human life that gothicism had explored. In effect, Victorian realism was haunted by ghosts of the gothic tradition. The course will study this haunting as it influences and shapes three major novels of the Victorian period: *Jane Eyre*, *Wuthering Heights*, and *Tess of the D'Urbervilles* as well as Henry James' novella, *The Turn of the Screw*. The goal is perceptive and responsive reading which will be assessed from written work and in-class discussions.

**Texts:** Charlotte Brontë: *Jane Eyre* (Norton Critical Editions), ed. R.J. Dunn;  
Emily Brontë: *Wuthering Heights* (Norton Critical Editions), ed. R. J. Dunn;  
Thomas Hardy: *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* (World's Classics 1988), eds. J. Grindle, and S. Gatrell;  
James: *The Turn of the Screw* (Dover)

You can use other editions if you want as long as you can figure out in class what page we're on.

**Requirements & Grading:** Your grade will be based on three short papers (3-4pp each) that will be assigned during the course + 25% for class participation. The papers will focus on questions about how to read particular passages. In addition: no one who does not attend and contribute regularly will receive a grade higher than B+ in this course. +/- system used.

### Schedule:

July	12	Introduction: The Victorian Gothic
	13	The Brontës and Their Background
	14	Jane Eyre
	15	Jane Eyre
	16	Jane Eyre
	19	Jane Eyre
	20	<i>Jane Eyre paper</i>
	21	Jane Eyre DUE + Charlotte vs Emily
	22	James: The Turn of the Screw
	23	James: The Turn of the Screw
	26	Another Turn of the Screw
	27	Wuthering Heights
	28	Wuthering Heights
	29	Wuthering Heights
	30	Wuthering Heights
Aug	2	<i>Wuthering Heights paper</i>
	3	Wuthering Heights DUE
	4	Thomas Hardy: Tess in Wessex
	5	Tess
	6	Tess
	9	Tess
	10	Tess
	11	Tess
	12	<i>Tess paper</i>
	13	Tess Paper DUE

**Policies:**

*Syllabus:* The instructor retains the right to vary the syllabus for this class. Regular class attendance is required. Don't come late and don't leave early (without clearing it with me first). Use of laptops, texting, cell phones and other electronic distractions is not acceptable.

*Honor Code:* The core values of The University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the university is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community.

*Academic Integrity:* Any work submitted by a student in this course for academic credit will be the student's own work. For additional information on Academic Integrity, see <http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/acadint.php>

*Documented Disability Statement:* The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact Services for Students with Disabilities at 471-6259 (voice) or 232-2937 (video phone) or <http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd>

*Religious Holy Days:* By UT Austin policy, you must notify me of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, I will give you an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

**Instructors:** Professor John P Farrell  
Office Location: Parlin 110  
Office Hours: 2-5 pm Fridays