In the graduate catalog, this course is described as:

Independent investigation of topics of specific interest to individual students. Students wishing to enroll in independent study must petition the director of graduate studies prior to the beginning of the semester.

In this independent study, the student will watch at least 15 horror films and study horror transmedia projects (video game tie-ins and adaptations in other media, including literature) along with accompanying theoretical works in literary, film, and ludological areas appropriate to the study. He will guest-lecture in an undergraduate course on horror film. Student will write an annotated bibliography and 15-20 page seminar paper, along with 3 5-6 page papers throughout the semester.

By the end of the course, students should be able to

- Understand the narratological, societal, and genre elements of the supernatural horror film and associated media
- Review current literature on horror film, transmedia adaptation, and ludology
- Guest lecture on appropriate elements in an undergraduate film course
- Conduct in-depth research and express it well in solid writing

These course outcomes are intended to further the official program outcomes of the English MA, which are that our students ought be able to:

- Write well-organized, substantial, grammatically and syntactically clean essays
- Demonstrate retention of key contents of selected texts as well as key concepts and themes
- Analyze texts with respect to form, contextual, and thematic matters
- Conduct sophisticated research involving a variety of primary and secondary materials and/or library catalogues and databases and properly document that research
• Understand and be able to apply both traditional and current critical methodologies to the texts studied

Required books

Films and video games and transmedia works as determined (at least 15).

Readings from:


Other articles and selections will be required.

Course policies

Attendance:
This is an independent study class. The student and instructor will set regular meetings, and the student is expected to arrive promptly on time, and to keep open a line of communication with the instructor of record.

Deadlines and late work:
Assignment deadlines will be negotiated between student and instructor. The student is required to turn all work in promptly as agreed upon. Failure to do so will result in a lower grade.

Revision policy:
Some assignments will be multi-draft processes. You are responsible for working to turn in rough, intermediate and final drafts as arranged for each project. Failing to follow the revision procedure may result in a lower grade for the project.

Plagiarism
I take plagiarism very seriously. According to SFASU Policies and Procedures:

Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or
otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp

If a student paper is found to have plagiarized passages, I will meet with the student, investigate the case, and decide on a suitable course of action, which may include an un-revisable 0 on the paper, an F in the course and an Academic Dishonesty Form filed with the Dean of the plagiarizing student’s college. If you have questions about what constitutes plagiarism, or fear you may not have properly cited something, please talk to me immediately.

Accommodations for Disabilities
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.

Assignments and grade determination

Book / article review: 15%
Participation, teaching demonstrations: 10%
Proposal for major project: 10%
Lit review / bib for major project: 10%
5-6 page paper: 10%
5-6 page paper: 10%
Final paper: 30%

Percentage Grade
90-100   A
80-89    B
70-79    C
60-69    D
0-59     F