

# Course Outline

**School / Portfolio:** Faculty of Education and Arts

**Course Title:** AMERICAN HORROR

**Course ID:** FLMOL3300

**Credit Points:** 15.00

**Prerequisite(s):** BAFND1002 or equivalent and one Screen Studies course

**Co-requisite(s):** Nil

**Exclusion(s):** (FLMOL2200)

**ASCED Code:** 100701

## Program Level:

AQF Level of Program						
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Level						
Introductory	■	■	■	■	■	■
Intermediate	■	■	■	■	■	■
Advanced	■	■	✓	■	■	■

## Learning Outcomes:

### Knowledge:

- K1.** Evaluate the cinematic genre of horror through the study of selected significant American horror films;
- K2.** Appraise how these texts are shaped by and have shaped American society;
- K3.** Investigate specific theorisations of horror film and consolidate knowledge of wider film theories.

### Skills:

- S1.** Critique viewing and reading practices;
- S2.** Research at an advanced level specific screen texts, issues, and theoretical perspectives;
- S3.** Analyse at an advanced level horror films in relation to their cultural, economic, historical, theoretical and/or political context;
- S4.** Design a research question, drawing on knowledge of theoretical and critical approaches to horror film;
- S5.** Critically review, analyse and synthesise knowledge of screen texts and relevant theory;
- S6.** Articulate an informed perspective.

### Application of knowledge and skills:

- A1.** Apply knowledge and skills to communicate an argument about film texts and theoretical concepts in written, visual and/or oral form;

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**A2.** Reflect critically on knowledge and skills developed in this course.

## Course Content:

Topics may include:

- The defining features, tropes and conventions of the horror genre
- The historical development of the American horror genre
- Sub-genres of American horror films
- Major Hollywood and “B” film productions
- Significant horror film directors and producers
- Theoretical perspectives including psychoanalytical and feminist theory
- Cultural, social, political, economic and historical contexts
- International contexts
- Race, class, gender and sexuality
- Family, parents, young adults and children
- Religion and spirituality
- Violence

## Values and Graduate Attributes:

### Values:

- V1.** Develop an appreciation of the horror genre;
- V2.** Recognise the social and cultural significance of screen texts in contemporary society;
- V3.** Develop a sensitivity to different ways of seeing and reading film texts;
- V4.** Respect the ideas and skills of others;
- V5.** Actively participate in learning in a supportive environment.

### Graduate Attributes:

Attribute	Brief Description	Focus
Continuous Learning	Students gain an understanding of how films shape and are shaped by society. In particular, they become aware of the way horror films engage with and work through contemporary fears.	High
Self Reliance	Students design their own research question, undertake independent research, manage their time to complete tasks and meet deadlines, and critically reflect on their own learning.	High
Engaged Citizenship	Students engage in collegial discussions with their peers and teachers about issues relevant to contemporary society such as race, class, politics, religion and gender.	Medium
Social Responsibility	Students discuss the depiction of graphic violence in horror films.	Medium

## Learning Task and Assessment:

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Learning Outcomes Assessed	Assessment Task	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1, K3, S1, S6	Make informed contributions to discussions of set texts and readings. To be further detailed in course description and may include short reviews or reports submitted online or in class	Participation including reviews /reports	10-20%
K2, S2, S3, S6, A1, A2	Research the context(s) of an American horror film and present an argument as an oral/visual presentation, then write a reflective critical analysis of the activity	Presentation	20-30%
K1, K3, S5, S6	Apply knowledge of set texts and relevant theory to extended answer questions	Test	20-30%
K1, K3, S2, S4, S5, S6, A1	Research and apply appropriate critical and film theory to an analysis of horror film texts in relation to a topic developed by the student in consultation with their course coordinator	Research essay	30-40%

## Adopted Reference Style:

MLA