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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AQF Level of Program</th>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
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<tr>
<td>Introductory</td>
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<td>Intermediate</td>
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<td>Advanced</td>
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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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Brief Description</th>
<th>Focus</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Continuous Learning</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self Reliance</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>High</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engaged Citizenship</td>
<td>Students engage in collegial discussions with their peers and teachers about issues relevant to contemporary society such as race, class, politics, religion and gender.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Responsibility</td>
<td>Students discuss the depiction of graphic violence in horror films.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
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</table>

Learning Task and Assessment:
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Outcomes Assessed</th>
<th>Assessment Task</th>
<th>Assessment Type</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K1, K3, S1, S6</td>
<td>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</td>
<td>Participation including reviews /reports</td>
<td>10-20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>K2, S2, S3, S6, A1, A2</td>
<td>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</td>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>20-30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K1, K3, S5, S6</td>
<td>Apply knowledge of set texts and relevant theory to extended answer questions</td>
<td>Test</td>
<td>20-30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K1, K3, S2, S4, S5, S6, A1</td>
<td>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</td>
<td>Research essay</td>
<td>30-40%</td>
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**Adopted Reference Style:**

MLA