

**English 730**  
**The Gothic Novel**  
R 3-5:30 pm  
POT 108

Professor: Lisa Zunshine  
Office Hours: R 1:50 pm-2:50 pm  
Email: lisa.zunshine@gmail.com

**Required Texts:**

1. Samuel Lewis, *The Monk*
  2. Horace Walpole, *The Castle of Otranto*
  3. William Beckford, *Vathek*
  4. Jane Austen, *Northanger Abbey*
- \*\*\*\*\**The Monk, The Castle of Otranto, Vathek, and Northanger Abbey* are available from Broadview Press bundled in one package with the ISBN 978-1-77047-288-4
5. Ann Radcliffe, *The Mysteries of Udolpho*, Oxford; 978-0192825230
  6. Daphne du Maurier, Rebecca, 978-0380730407

**Requirements:**

- response papers—30% of the grade. Eight response papers (2 pp., double spaced) are due in class on the dates specified below. If the response is based on one critical essay (or chapter), formulate briefly the thesis of the essay and then discuss it in the light of your own reading of the primary text. If the response is based on several essays, briefly outline the stakes of the argument they engage with and then discuss this argument in the light of your own reading of the primary text. If the response is based on a primary text, focus your paper on one particular aspect of that text.
- final oral presentation—15% (8 min. long; 4 double-spaced pages)
- final research paper, fit to be presented at an academic conference (8-10 pages) based on your oral presentation—55%.

**Schedule of Readings:**

Jan 20 (R) • Walpole, *The Castle of Otranto*; • Susan Sontag, “Notes on ‘Camp’” (1964)

Jan 27 (R) **Response paper is due** • Beckford, *Vathek*. If you have the Broadview Edition, read *Vathek*, Introduction, and Appendix B; don't read *The Episodes of Vathek*.

• Edmund Burke, *A Philosophical Inquiry into the Origin of Our Ideas of The Sublime and Beautiful*. You can read it in any edition (as long as it's unabridged), including online editions, such as

<http://www.bartleby.com/24/2/>

• Adam Potkay, “Beckford's Heaven of Boys.” *Raritan* 13.1 (Summer 1993): 73-87; available electronically via the Young Library (search for *Raritan*).

Feb 3 (R) • Radcliffe, *The Mysteries of Udolpho* (to p. 272; or, if you are using a different edition, to the end of chapter 6 of volume 2)

Feb 10 (R) **Response paper is due** • *Udolpho* (to p. 511, or to the end of volume 3)

• Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick, from *Coherence of Gothic Conventions*: “The Structure of Gothic Conventions” (handout)

Feb 17 (R) **Response paper is due** • *Udolpho* (to p. 672, or to the end of the novel)

• Clair Kahane. “The Gothic Mirror” (handout);

• Terry Castle, from *The Female Thermometer*: “The Spectralization of the Other in *The Mysteries of Udolpho*” (handout)

Feb 24 (R) • Lewis, *The Monk* (to the end of Chapter 5, or to p. 203). If you have the Broadview edition, read the “Introduction”

Mar 3 (R) **Response paper is due** • The Monk (to the end of the novel, or, to p. 363)

Mar 10 (R) **Response paper is due** • Jacqueline Howard, from *Reading Gothic Fiction: A Bakhtinian Approach*: “Anticlerical Gothic: Matthew Lewis’s The Monk” (handout)  
• Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick, from *Coherence of Gothic Conventions*: “The Character in the Veil: Imagery of the Surface in the Gothic Novel” (handout)

Mar 24 (R) • Austen, *Northanger Abbey* (to the end of the book)

Mar 31 (R) **Response paper is due** • George Levine. “Translating the Monstrous: *Northanger Abbey*.” *Nineteenth-Century Fiction* 30:3 (1975): 335-50; available online via the Young Library. • Natasha Duquette, “‘Motionless Wonder’: Contemplating Gothic Sublimity in *Northanger Abbey*.” *Persuasions: The Jane Austen Journal On-Line* 30.2 (Spring 2010) • William St. Clair, from *The Reading Nation in the Romantic Period* (handout)

Apr 7 (R) TBA

Apr 14 (R) **Response paper is due** • du Maurier, *Rebecca*. Also watch Hitchcock’s *Rebecca* (on reserve at the Young Library and available on YouTube)

Tania Modleski, from *The Women Who Knew Too Much*

Heta Pyrhönen, “Bluebeard’s Accomplice: Rebecca as a Masochistic Fantasy.” *Mosaic: A Journal for the Interdisciplinary Study of Literature* 38.3 (2005): 149-65. Available online via the Young Library.

**April 20 (W) Response paper is due** • Talk by Alan Richardson, Boston College: A ‘Fiction of the Mind’: The Return of the Romantic Imagination in Recent Neuroscience." **2 pm**, Lexmark Room, Main Building. **4 pm**: seminar in room 5 of the Main Building. **Assigned reading for the seminar**: selections from *The Neural Sublime: Cognitive Theories and Romantic Texts* (Johns Hopkins, 2010) (handout)

Apr 21 (R) No official class, but abstracts (optional) are due. If you want my feedback on your abstract, please come to class during the regular hours and talk to me.

**April 22 (F)**: Social Theory talk: **Terry Castle**, Stanford University. West End Room 18th Floor, POT 2-4 pm. Title: "Return of the Living Professors: Writing 'Academically,' Writing Personally." (I strongly recommend her latest book, *The Professor and Other Writings* [Harper, 2010])

Apr 28 (R) Presentations

**The final paper is due in my mailbox by the end of the day on Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>.**

### Appendix A

#### Conferences to which you may consider submitting an abstract based on your work in this class

1. American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies <http://asecs.press.jhu.edu/> (San Antonio, TX March 22-25, 2012)
2. North-American Society for the Study of Romanticism <http://publish.uwo.ca/~nassr/>. 15-19 August, 2012, Neuchâtel, Switzerland (University of Neuchâtel).
3. Joint Meeting of CSECS/NEASECS/Aphra Behn Society (Canadian Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies; Northeastern American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies). Hamilton, ON, 27–29 October, 2011. **Deadline: March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011.** Call for papers at [www.humanities.mcmaster.ca/~csecs/](http://www.humanities.mcmaster.ca/~csecs/)

## Appendix B: Selected Bibliography

- Arnold, Ellen. "Deconstructing the Patriarchal Palace: Ann Radcliffe's Poetry in *The Mysteries of Udolpho*."
- Belsey, Catherine. "The Romantic Construction of the Unconscious." *1789: Reading Writing Revolution*. Ed. Francis Barker, et al. Proceedings of the Essex Conference on the Sociology of Literature July 1981, 1982. 67-80.
- Benedict, Barbara M. "Pictures of Conformity: Sentiment and Structure in Ann Radcliffe's Style." *Philological Quarterly* 68:3 (1989): 363-77.
- Bernstein, Stephen. "Form and Ideology in the Gothic Novel." *Essays in Literature* 18.2 (1991): 151-65.
- Botting, Fred. "The Gothic Production of the Unconscious." *Readings: Towards a Gothic Geography*. Eds. Byron Glennis and Punter David. New York: St.Martin's, Macmillan, 1999. 11-36.
- Bruce, Donald Williams. "Ann Radcliffe and the Extended Imagination." *Contemporary Review* 258.1505 (1991): 300-08.
- Burgess, Miranda J. "Domesticating Gothic: Jane Austen, Ann Radcliffe, and National Romance." *Lessons of Romanticism: A Critical Companion*. Eds. Thomas Pfau and Robert F. Gleckner. Durham, NC: Duke UP, 1998. 392-412.
- \* Castle, Terry. *The Female Thermometer: Eighteenth-Century Culture and the Invention of the Uncanny*. New York : Oxford University Press, 1995.
- Christensen, Merton A. "*Udolpho*, Horrid Mysteries, and Coleridge's Machinery of the Imagination." *Wordsworth Circle* 2:4 (1971): 153-59.
- Bloom, Clive. *Gothic Histories: The Taste for Terror, 1764 to the Present*. London, England: Continuum, 2010.
- Day, William Patrick. *In the Circles of Fear and Desire: A Study of Gothic Fantasy* (U Chicago Press, 1985).
- Doody, Margaret Anne. "Deserts, Ruins and Troubled Waters: Female Dreams in Fiction and the Development of the Gothic Novel." *Genre* 10:4 (1977): 529-72.
- \* Duquette, Natasha. "'Motionless Wonder': Contemplating Gothic Sublimity in Northanger Abbey." *Persuasions: The Jane Austen Journal On-Line*, (30:2), 2010 Spring, [no pagination]
- Durant, David S. "Aesthetic Heroism in *The Mysteries of Udolpho*." *The Eighteenth Century: Theory*
- Ellis, Kate Ferguson. *The Contested Castle: Gothic Novels and the Subversion of Domestic Ideology* (U Illinois P, 1989).and *Interpretation* 22:2 (1981): 175-88.
- Fawcett, Mary Laughlin. "*Udolpho*'s Primal Mystery." *Studies in English Literature, 1500-1900* 23:3 (1983): 481-94.
- Fitzgerald, Lauren. "Gothic Properties: Radcliffe, Lewis and the Critics." *The Wordsworth Circle* 24.3 (1993).
- Fleenor, Juliann E., Ed. *The Female Gothic*. Eden Press, 1983.
- Geary, Robert F. "Charting the Supernatural." *Review* 19 (1997): 113-24.

---. "M. G. Lewis and Later Gothic Fiction: The Numinous Dissipated." *State of the Fantastic: Studies in the Theory and Practice of Fantastic Literature and Film*. Ed. Nicholas Ruddick. Westport, CT: Greenwood, 1992. 75-81.

Hogle, Jerrold E. "The Ghost of the Counterfeit -- and the Closet -- in *The Monk*." *Romanticism on the Net* 8 (1997): np.

\* Howard, Jacqueline. *Reading Gothic Fiction: A Bakhtinian Approach*. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1994.

Hume, Robert D. "Gothic Versus Romantic: A Reevaluation of the Gothic Novel." *PMLA* 84:2 (1969): 282-90.

\* Kahane, Claire. "Gothic Mirrors and Feminine Identity." *Centennial Review* 24:1 (1980): 43-64. Can also be found here: "The Gothic Mirror." *The (M)Other Tongue: Essays in Feminist Psychoanalytic Interpretation*. Ed. Claire Kahane, Madelon Sprengnether, and Shirley Nelson Garner. Ithaca and London: Cornell University Press, 1985. 334-51.

\* Levine, George. "Translating the Monstrous: *Northanger Abbey*." *Nineteenth-Century Fiction* 30:3 (1975): 335-50.

Liu, Alan. "Toward a Theory of Common Sense: Beckford's *Vathek* and Johnson's *Rasselas*." *Texas Studies in Literature and Language* 26 (1984): 183-217.

London, April. "Ann Radcliffe in Context: Marking the Boundaries of *The Mysteries of Udolpho*." *Eighteenth-Century Life* 10: ns 1 (1986): 35-47.

Macdonald, D. L. "Bathos and Repetition: The Uncanny in Radcliffe." *Journal of Narrative Technique* 19:2 (1989): 197-204.

Mackenzie, Scott. "Ann Radcliffe's Gothic Narrative and the Readers at Home." *Studies in the Novel* 31.4 (1999): 409-31.

Martin, Rebecca E. "'I Should Like to Spend My Whole Life in Reading It': Repetition and the Pleasure of the Gothic." *Journal of Narrative Technique* 28.1 (1998): 75-90.

Mellor, Anne K. "A Novel of Their Own: Romantic Women's Fiction, 1790-1830." *The Columbia History of the British Novel*. Eds. John Richetti, et al. New York: Columbia UP, 1994. 327-51.

Miall, David S. "The Preceptor as Fiend: Radcliffe's Psychology of the Gothic." *Jane Austen and Mary Shelley and Their Sisters*. Ed. Laura Dabundo. Lanham, MD: University Press of America, 2000. 31-43.

Michasiw, Kim Ian. "Ann Radcliffe and the Terrors of Power." *Eighteenth-Century Fiction* 6.4 (1994): 327-46.

Miles, Robert. "The Gothic Aesthetic: The Gothic As Discourse." *The Eighteenth Century* 32:1 (1991): 39-57.

Moers, Ellen. "Traveling Heroism: Gothic for Heroines." *Literary Women*. New York: Doubleday, 1976. 122-140.

Morrison, Paul. "Enclosed in Openness: *Northanger Abbey* and the Domestic Carceral." *Texas Studies in Literature and Language* 33.1 (1991): 1-23.

Murrah, Charles C. "Mrs. Radcliffe's Landscapes: The Eye and the Fancy." *University of Windsor Review* 18:1 (1984): 7-23.

- Napier, Elizabeth R. "Ann Radcliffe." *Dictionary of Literary Biography, Vol. 39: British Novelists, 1660-1800*. Ed. Martin C. Battestin. Detroit: Gale Research, 1985. 363-72.
- Paulson, Ronald. "Gothic Fiction and the French Revolution." *ELH* 48:3 (1981): 532-53.
- Punter, David. *The Literature of Terror, 1. The Gothic Tradition* (Longman, 1996).
- Punter, David. *Gothic Pathologies: The Text, the Body and the Law* (Macmillan, 1998).
- \* Richardson, Alan. *The Neural Sublime: Cognitive Theories and Romantic Texts*. Johns Hopkins University Press, 2010.
- Richter, David H. *The Progress of Romance: Literary Historiography and the Gothic Novel*. Columbus: Ohio State UP, 1996.
- Russett, Margaret. "Narrative As Enchantment in *The Mysteries of Udolpho*." *ELH* 65.1 (1998): 159-86.
- Sabor, Peter. "Medieval Revival and the Gothic." *The Cambridge History of Literary Criticism, IV: The Eighteenth Century*. Eds. H. B. Nisbet and Claude Rawson. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1997. 470-88.
- Sage, Victor. "The Epistemology of Error: Reading and Isolation in *The Mysteries of Udolpho*." *Q W E R T Y: Arts, Litteratures and Civilisations Du Monde Anglophone* 6 (1996): 107-13.
- \* Sedgwick, Eve Kosofsky. *The Coherence of Gothic Conventions*. New York and London: Methuen, 1986.
- \* St. Clair, William. *The Reading Nation in the Romantic Period*. Cambridge UP, 2003.
- Voller, Jack G. "Todorov Among the Gothics: Structuring the Supernatural Moment." *Contours of the Fantastic: Selected Essays From the Eighth International Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts*. Ed. Michele K. Langford. New York: Greenwood, 1994. 197-206.
- Watkins, Daniel P. "Social Hierarchy in Matthew Lewis's *The Monk*." *Studies in the Novel* 18:2 (1986): 115-24.
- Whiting, Patricia. "Literal and Literary Representations of the Family in *The Mysteries of Udolpho*." *Eighteenth-Century Fiction* 8.4 (1996): 485-501.
- Williams, Anne. "Ann Radcliffe's Female Plot." *Studies on Voltaire and the Eighteenth Century* 304 (1992): 823-25.
- Winter, Kari J. "Sexual/Textual Politics of Terror: Writing and Rewriting the Gothic Genre in the 1790s." *Misogyny in Literature: An Essay Collection*. Ed. Katherine Anne Ackley. New York: Garland, 1992. 89-103.
- Wolff, Cynthia Griffin. "The Radcliffean Gothic Model: A Form for Feminine Sexuality." *Modern Language Studies* 9:3 (1979): 98-113.