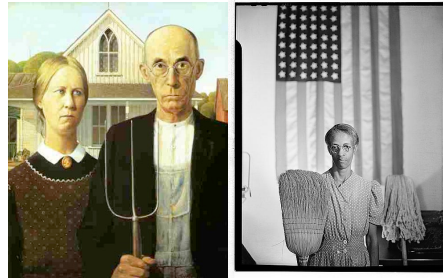


Fall 2013

Agnieszka Soltysik Monnet

Office hours: Tuesday 3-4 & by appointment

Moodle key: gothic



## American Gothic

Sept. 27: Theoretical and historical introduction

Oct. 4: Historical Gothic: Chapter One of Frederick Douglass, *Narrative & Crevecoeur*, Letter IX

Critical text: Teresa Goddu, "Introduction" and Chapter One: Haunted by History"

Oct. 11: (reading week)

Oct. 16: Maisha Wester's lecture on African American Gothic

Oct. 18: African American Gothic:

Read: Introduction & Chapter One of *African American Gothic* & "The Mulatto" (1837) by Victor Séjour & Alice Walker, "The Child that Favored Daughter" (1967)

Oct. 25: Poe and the Politics of Conscience

Read: Poe, "William Wilson," and "The Fall of the House of Usher" and "Hop Frog"

Critical essay: Excerpt from chapter on Poe from *The Poetics and the Politics of the American Gothic*

Nov. 1: The Female Gothic

Read: Charlotte Perkins Gilman, "The Yellow Wallpaper" (1892) "The Giant Wisteria" & Susan Glaspell, "A Jury of Her Peers" (1917)

Critical article: Female Gothic: Then and Now

Nov. 8: Southern Gothic: O'Connor, "The Comforts of Home" and other stories

Critical article: tbd

Nov. 15: African American Gothic II: Morrison's *Beloved* (1987)

Critical text:

Nov. 22: *Beloved*

Critical text:

Nov. 29: *Beloved*

Critical text: Kathleen Brogan, "Getting One's Dead Back for Reburial," *Cultural Haunting: Ghosts and Ethnicity in Recent American Fiction*

Dec. 6: Zombie Gothic— tbd

Critical text: excerpt from Kyle Bishop, *American Zombie Gothic: The Rise and Fall (and Rise) of the Walking Dead in Popular Culture*

Dec. 13 Guest lecture in class: Teresa Goddu, "The African American Slave Narrative and the Gothic"

Dec. 20: Pop Goth: *Buffy The Vampire Slayer*

Critical text: Lynne Edwards, "Slaying in Black and White" (to be confirmed)

### **Course Objectives:**

Familiarity with the major themes and texts of American Gothic. Improve reading and analytical skills, especially in dealing with wider cultural issues.

### **Requirements:**

Preparation of discussion questions and two take-home written assignments of 1500 words each OR one final essay 2500-3000 words (FOR ALL STUDENTS)

An extended essay option (11-13 pages OR 4000 words) for a further 2 credits is possible for 2013 plan students:

### **Extended essay**

Students **in the 2013 *plan d'études*** who are taking this class in the module *BA-ANG-2-201010* may choose to write a second, extended, essay for an **extra 2 credits**. This essay will give a more in-depth treatment of a theme related to the seminar, and should engage with primary and secondary texts not treated extensively during class time. Students will negotiate a topic with the teacher and then will work independently on the essay, which should be c. 4000 words long. This essay should normally be submitted by the **Jan. 20th 2014** (extensions negotiable).

### **Oral participation:**

You will sign up for a date and you will be responsible for the author on that date. You will prepare questions for discussion in small groups. ALL STUDENTS

### **Official course registration**

The deadline for registration for courses, evaluations and January exams is the **13th October 2013**. Students in the 2013 *plan d'études* should note that they must register for both the class and the relevant *évaluation* in order to receive credits.

### **BA exam**

You may choose to present a BA exam on this class. Different regulations and guidelines apply to the different *plans d'études*, so make sure you follow the correct set of instructions below. Mobilité IN students are not required to take faculty exams.

The **deadlines** for both *plans d'études* are the same. If you plan to present the exam in **January** you need to sign up for the exam by the **13th October 2013**. The deadline for submitting your exam dossier to me is the 29th November. If you plan to present the exam in **June** (or **September** - written exams only), you need to sign up for the exam by the **16th March 2013**, and the deadline for submitting your dossier to me is the 9th May 2014.

### **2005 plan d'études**

If you choose to present a BA exam based on this class, DB and Options students may choose between a 4-hour written or a half-hour oral exam. (The exam for DCII, if you choose to offer it on this class, is a 4-hour written exam.) In either case you should present **2 topics and a Reading List** to the examiner in advance. (These topics should NOT include the topic of your essay.) See the Reading List guidelines on the website for more details on compiling your reading list.

[http://www.unil.ch/angl/page62593\\_en.html](http://www.unil.ch/angl/page62593_en.html)

The topics you present may be topics explicitly treated in class (e.g. Female Gothic, African American Gothic, Historical Gothic) or topics you develop yourself (e.g. Gothic metaphors of race, the racial uncanny, feminist pop gothic). The exam question will be based on these two topics. In the written exam you will be given a choice of two questions; in the oral exam you are given only one question based on one or both of your topics. Both written and oral exams will also include a Reading List question.

### **2013 plan d'études**

If as a DB student you choose to present a BA exam based on this class, you may choose between a 4-hour written and a half-hour oral exam. In either case the exam will expect you to have knowledge of all the material covered in the seminar. You will also **present a personal reading list** of primary and secondary texts from the "Further Reading" section of the course bibliography.

In the written exam you will be given a choice of three questions and you will answer one question only. In the oral exam there will be one question only, which will require you to closely analyse a text/extract of a text studied in the seminar.

### **Required Course Texts:**

Available at Basta!:

*Beloved*

The other texts will be made available on moodle2.

### **Course Texts:**

Bishop, Kyle. *American Zombie Gothic: The Rise and Fall (and Rise) of the Walking Dead in Popular Culture*. McFarland & Company, 2010.

Brogan, Kathleen. "Getting One's Dead Back for Reburial," *Cultural Haunting: Ghosts and Ethnicity in Recent American Fiction*. UP of Virginia, 1998.

Edwards, Lynn. "Slaying in Black and White: Kendra as Tragic Mulatta in *Buffy*." *Fighting the Forces: What's at Stake in Buffy the Vampire Slayer*. Eds. Rhonda V. Wilcox and David Lavery. Lowman and Littlefield, 2002.

**Goddu, Teresa. *Gothic America: Narrative, History and Nation*. New York: Columbia UP, 1997. (our guest speaker on Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>)**

Soltysik Monnet, Agnieszka. *The Poetics and Politics of the American Gothic*. Ashgate, 2010.

Wester, Maisha L. *African American Gothic: Screams from Shadowed Places*. New York: Palgrave, 2012. **(Our guest speaker on Oct. 16<sup>th</sup>)**

### **Other Recommended Texts:**

Bienstock Anolik, Ruth, and Douglas Howard. *The Gothic Other: Racial and Social Constructions in the Literary Imagination*. Jefferson, NC and London: MacFarlane, 2004.

Botting, Fred. *Gothic. The New Critical Idiom*. London and New York: Routledge, 1996.

Crow, Charles. *American Gothic*. University of Wales Press, 2009.

Horner, Avril and Sue Zlosnik. *The Gothic and the Comic Turn*. Palgrave, 2005.

Lloyd-Smith, Alan. *American Gothic Fiction: An Introduction*. New York: Continuum, 2004.

Martin, Robert K. & Eric Savoy. *American Gothic: Interventions in a National Narrative*. University of Iowa Press, 1998.

Punter, David. *The Literature of Terror: The Gothic Tradition*. Volume One. London: Longman, 1996.

----- . *The Literature of Terror: The Modern Tradition*. Volume Two. London: Longman, 1996.

Savoy, Eric. "A Theory of American Gothic." *American Gothic: New Interventions in a National Narrative*. Eds. Robert K. Martin and Eric Savoy. Iowa City: U of Iowa P, 1998. [will be on Moodle]

----- . "The Rise of the American Gothic." *The Cambridge Companion to Gothic Fiction*. Ed. Jerrold E. Hogle. CUP, 2002.

Spooner, Catherine. *Contemporary Gothic*. London: Reaktion Books, 2006.

Weinstock, Jeffrey. *Spectral America: Phantoms and the National Imagination*. U of Wisconsin Press, 2004.