

Writing Studies Summer 2021 Course Offerings



Summer I: ENG 621: Horror in Literature and Film (Area I)

Dr. Paul Patterson

Online and Asynchronous

CRN: 20024

From the horrors of Hell in *Dante's Inferno* to the meta-narrative of Joss Whedon's and Drew Goddard's *The Cabin in the Woods*, this course explores the production, reception, aesthetics, politics, and evolution of the horror genre in both fiction and literature. In this course we will explore the shifts in the genre's paradigm as landmark films and books are considered and contextualized. We will read the literary works and films against the historical, political, and industrial settings in which they were produced. The course will move in chronological order through the films, beginning with the classic films of the 1930s and 40s. We will next examine Cold War politics and how it influenced the genre, then the apathy of the Clinton '90s as reflected in such films as *I Know What you Did Last Summer* and *Scream*. We will conclude by considering the trauma of lost bodies in both Dante's *Inferno* and such post-9/11 films as Spielberg's *War of the Worlds*, George Romero's *The Land of the Dead*, and the 2006 remake of *The Omen*. The literary works of Dante, Mary Shelley, Bram Stoker, Colson Whitehead, and the films of Alfred Hitchcock, Roman Polanski, Brian DePalma, David Cronenberg, Joss Whedon, and Mary Harron, among others, will be studied.



Summer II: ENG 640: Experiments in Narrative (Area II)

Dr. Kay Cosgrove

Tuesdays & Thursdays 6:00 – 8:00 pm (online meetings via Zoom)

CRN: 20233

In this course, students will carefully study specific approaches to craft and technique in creative writing, from long form narrative to minimalist poetry. Through detailed critical reading, analysis, and diagramming, students will explore the scaffolding that underpins creative writing, with special attention to form and genre. By analyzing the craft techniques used by other creative writers, students will learn to apply such approaches to form and technique effectively in their own work.