

**ENGL 330-A01**  
**One Hundred Years of Horror**  
**Fall 2022**

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Many cultural critics suggest that we are in the midst of a horror renaissance, as films like “Get Out,” “The Witch,” and “Midsommar,” and series like “Stranger Things” and “Black Mirror,” receive accolades and inspire attempts to dissect the causes of the current horror craze. Why are such works proliferating? Do they speak to present anxieties in ways no other works can? Reflect changing views of the kind of stimulation we seek in works of art? Does modern horror diverge from its Gothic roots? This course tries to answer questions like these by looking at works of horror from the last hundred years. The goal is to see whether we can trace a line from classics by writers and filmmakers like H. P. Lovecraft and Tod Browning to the new landscape of horror and, in doing so, think more clearly about why spectacles of horror continue to attract us.

**Proposed Texts:**

Georg Heym, “The Dissection”  
H. P. Lovecraft, “The Dunwich Horror”  
Clark Ashton Smith, “The Double Shadow”  
Shirley Jackson, “The Lottery”  
Ray Bradbury, “The Small Assassin”  
Stephen King, “Children of the Corn”  
Clive Barker, “The Midnight Meat Train”  
Patrick McGrath, “The Angel”  
Caitlin Kiernan, “Paedomorphosis”  
Neil Gaiman, “Feeders and Eaters”



**Proposed Films:** (N.B.: Students will select films by vote, so this list is only suggestive.)

Paul Wegener, *The Golem, Student of Prague*  
Tod Browning, *Freaks; Dracula*  
James Whale, *Frankenstein, Bride of Frankenstein*  
Don Siegel, *Invasion of the Body Snatchers*  
Alfred Hitchcock, *Psycho*  
Roman Polanski, *Rosemary's Baby*  
George Romero, *Night of the Living Dead; Texas Chainsaw Massacre*  
Robert Eggers, *The Witch*  
Yeon Sang-ho, *Train to Busan*  
Jordan Peele, *Get Out; Us*  
Ari Aster, *Hereditary; Midsommar*

**Proposed Assignments:**

Two essays, of 1200-1500 words, each worth 35%; and a take-home final exam of 30%. *Students will have the option to replace one essay with an original work of horror writing, a short horror film, or a horror-themed drawing or sculpture.*