



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
English

Syllabus

Horror and gothic literature: a survey

Course Code:	ENGHF1
Course Title:	Horror and gothic literature: a survey <i>Skräcklitteratur och gotik: en översikt</i>
Credits:	7.5
Degree Level:	Undergraduate level
Progressive Specialisation:	First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements (G1N)

Major Field of Study:

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2026-02-17, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2026 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

General entry requirements plus either upper secondary level English 6 or English level 2.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to

1. give an overall account of the historical development of horror and Gothic literature,
2. identify the fundamental conventions of horror and Gothic literature, and
3. conduct a basic critical analysis of horror and Gothic literature using literary theory.

Content

The course provides an overview and introduction to the classics of horror and Gothic literature in English, as well as later variants. The shifting function and development of the genre are highlighted by examining specific moments in literary history.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

All learning outcomes are assessed through individual written assignments.

Learning outcomes 1 and 2 are also assessed through an individual oral presentation.

If students have a decision from Karlstad University entitling them to Targeted Study Support due to a documented disability, the examiner has the right to give such students an adapted examination or to examine them in a different manner.

Grades

One of the grades VG (Pass with Distinction), G (Pass), or U (Fail) is awarded in the examination of the course.

Quality Assurance

Follow-up relating to learning conditions and goal-fulfilment takes place both during and upon completion of the course in order to ensure continuous improvement. Course evaluation is partly based on student views and experiences obtained in accordance with current regulations and partly on other data and documentation. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of any measures to be taken.

Course Certificate

A course certificate will be provided upon request.

Additional information

The local regulations for studies at the Bachelor and Master levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.