# Programme Specification ARO 034a

## Section 1 Key Facts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Awarding Body</th>
<th>University of Stirling</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Partner Institution</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme Name</td>
<td>Gothic Imagination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Award</td>
<td>MLitt/Postgraduate Diploma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty</td>
<td>Arts and Humanities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Division (if applicable)</td>
<td>Literature and Languages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UCAS Code (UG only)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme Code</td>
<td>TXX43-GOI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mode of Study</td>
<td>Full Time ☒  Part Time ☒  (if both please provide two Degree Programme Tables in the Outline Programme Structure)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location/Method of Study</td>
<td>On Campus – UK ☒  International ☐  Where:  Online ☐  Blended ☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admission Points</td>
<td>September ☒  January ☐  Other ☐  (if more than one entry point please provide a Degree Programme Table for each in the Outline Programme Structure)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length of Programme</td>
<td>Full-time: 12 months. Part-Time: 27 months</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCQF Level</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Credit Value</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECTS Credit Value</td>
<td>90</td>
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</table>
| Professional Body Accreditation | Name of accrediting body: University of Stirling  
Required for programme: Yes/No (delete as appropriate)  
Date of Accreditation: XX / XX / 20XX  
Date of Renewal: XX / XX / 20XX |
| Programme Director | Professor Justin D Edwards                     |
| Advisor of Studies | Dr. Timothy Jones                              |
| Programme Approved | 01 / 05 / 2002                                 |
| Last Updated       | 01 / 07 / 2017                                 |
Section 2 Overview

PROGRAMME SUMMARY

This programme will provide with the opportunities to explore the full range of Gothic writing, from its beginning in the 18th century to the present. We focus on work from Horace Walpole, Ann Radcliffe and Mary Shelley, through Victorian and late 19th century writers (Dickens, Stevenson, Wilde, Stoker) to the Edwardian heyday of the ghost story, and on to the various modern and post-modern examples of the Gothic in writers such as Toni Morrison, Angela Carter and Stephen King. We also explore Gothic cinema and other forms of Gothic culture. The term ‘Gothic’ is itself highly contested. Accordingly, theories relevant to the Gothic, such as Freud’s uncanny, Todorov on the fantastic and Kristeva on abjection will be examined.

Key Features of the Programme

What makes the Gothic Imagination degree distinctive is that it is taught by leading international scholars in the field of Gothic Studies. This means that we explore the international dimensions of Gothic cultural production and the history of Gothic from the 18th century to present within a global context. This enables you to study Gothic texts from outside an Anglophone tradition (often in translation) and develop critical and theoretical approaches to the Gothic that draw on postcolonial studies, transnational studies, queer theory, psychoanalysis, poststructuralism, postmodernism, etc. These critical and theoretical paradigms engender an interdisciplinary approach to Gothic studies that you will examine in small seminar groups and one-on-one supervision.

PROGRAMME AIMS

This programme aims to develop your interest in and knowledge and understanding of a range of Gothic texts, periods, genres, media and conceptual, theoretical and critical issues. It aims to provide you with the opportunity to investigate the basic areas of study relevant to postgraduate research and to introduce them in a wide ranging way to the wider academic community and its professional demands. You will be introduced to the research techniques involved in the scholarly study of Gothic including interdisciplinary approaches, bibliography, and the study of the history of Gothic aesthetics. You will also develop expertise in and understanding of various critical and theoretical approaches influential in contemporary research in Gothic literature, film, media and culture. You will have the opportunity to select from a range of more specialised units which will develop their detailed knowledge of certain aspects of Gothic Studies. Finally, you will be given advice and training on the researching and writing of a 15,000-word dissertation.

On successful completion of this programme, you should be able to:

1. comprehend a range of Gothic texts, periods, genres, media
2. recognise a range of conceptual, theoretical and critical issues
3. understand the wider academic community and its professional demands
4. engage in research techniques involved in the scholarly study of Gothic
5. grasp various critical and theoretical approaches influential in contemporary research in Gothic literature, film, media and culture

WHAT WILL I BE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE?

Detailed Learning Outcomes

1. deploy research techniques involved in the scholarly study of Gothic literature and culture including bibliography, criticism, and the history of Gothic aesthetics
2. demonstrate an understanding of critical and theoretical approaches influential in contemporary research in Gothic literature and culture
3. **demonstrate** a detailed knowledge of scholarly, critical and theoretical issues with respect to the history of Gothic literature in English

4. **express** knowledge of a range of literary periods, genres, authors and works in the context of a variety of literary critical and theoretical approaches

5. **undertake** the planning, execution and presentation of research projects: students will formulate research questions of specific importance to Gothic Studies and employ suitable methods and resources for exploring these questions.

6. **evaluate** and draw upon the range of library and archive resources and conceptual frameworks appropriate to research in the Gothic.

**Values**

We expect you to develop and display the following values through your study:

- Openness
- Excellence
- Ambition
- Ethical behavior

**HOW WILL I LEARN?**

- Assessment in each semester will be based on coursework and essays. Methods of assessment for each of the non-core option modules will vary but will often consist of a single essay. Teaching will take the form of regular tutorials in small groups. Though all the modules will offer close and careful supervision, you are expected to take proper responsibility for their own studies. The aim in all cases is to foster student-led learning in expert, stimulating and congenial company.

- During the summer, you will write a dissertation of 15,000 words. In choosing your topic in consultation with the course directors, you are encouraged to develop your own personal interests within the broad field of the Gothic. This is an intensive piece of research; you will be assigned a supervisor who provides advice in both the researching and writing of the dissertation. A creative writing dissertation may be approved if you have the appropriate experience. If you do not embark on the dissertation you may be awarded a Diploma. The work of the best students completing the course may be deemed worthy of M.Litt with Distinction.

**WHAT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK CAN I EXPECT?**

**Assessment and Assessment Criteria**

Students will normally experience the following forms of assessment on this degree scheme:

- Seminar presentations
- Essays
- Writing Blog Posts
- Writing Book Reviews

**Feedback on Assessment**

You will receive feedback on coursework within 3 weeks of completion of the assessment. Feedback is usually provided electronically on formal coursework. Feedback and Guidance sessions with teaching staff are available on all modules. These provide regular opportunities to discuss feedback further. More information about feedback on assessment can be found here; [http://www.stir.ac.uk/academicpolicy/handbook/assessment/](http://www.stir.ac.uk/academicpolicy/handbook/assessment/)
ASSessment Regulations

If you would like to know more about the way in which assessment works at the University of Stirling, please see the full version of the assessment regulations at:

Postgraduate – Taught

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Outline Programme Structure

The list below shows compulsory and option modules for this programme. Option modules are revised over time and, in some cases, will be dependent upon pre-requisite and/or co-requisites being taken. More information about these requirements can be found in the relevant Module Descriptors. The options available each year can be subject to change due to student demand and availability of teaching staff.

Postgraduate

Full-time

Total year 1 credit value = 180
Compulsory credits = 140
Option credits = 40

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Autumn</th>
<th>GOIPP23 - Gothic Studies (20)</th>
<th>GOIPP25 - Monsters, Theory and Culture (20)</th>
<th>20 credits from: GOIPP29 - The Gothic in Children's Literature and Cinema or GOIPP12 - Gothic and Gender (20)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>GOIPP24 - Modernity and Gothic (20)</td>
<td>GOIPP26 - New Directions in Gothic (20)</td>
<td>20 credits from: GOIPP28 - Special Gothic Subject: Victorian Occulture (20) or GOIPP04 - Gothic Film</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>GOIPP03 Dissertation (60)</td>
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Part-time

Year 1

Total year 1 credit value = 80
Compulsory credits = 80
Optional credits = 0

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Autumn 17/18</th>
<th>GOIPP23 - Gothic Studies (20)</th>
<th>GOIPP25 - Monsters, Theory and Culture (20)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spring 17/18</td>
<td>GOIPP24 - Modernity and Gothic (20)</td>
<td>GOIPP26 - New Directions in Gothic (20)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Part-time

Year 2

Total year 1 credit value = 100
Compulsory credits = 60
Optional credits = 40
Autumn 18/19

20 credits from:
GOIPP29 - The Gothic in Children’s Literature and Cinema (20)
or
GOIPP12 - Gothic and Gender (20)

Spring

20 credits from:
GOIPP28 - Special Gothic Subject: Victorian Occulture (20)
or
GOIPP04 - Gothic Film

GOIPPP3 Dissertation (60)

Summer

GOIPPP3 Dissertation (60) cont’d

Please note that options may vary from year-to-year to accommodate staff who are on research leave.

READING LIST

Required and Recommended Reading for the Programme

Please see the module handbooks for the required and recommended reading lists. To receive module handbooks, please email Professor Justin D Edwards (justin.edwards@stir.ac.uk)

Section 3 Student Support

SUPPORT FOR STUDENT LEARNING

Induction

You will receive an induction during the first days of your programme. This includes a range of social events, information sessions and activities to help you orientate yourself at Stirling and access the services available to you. These are opportunities to meet staff and other students from across the university, in the Faculty and on the programme.

Study Skills Support

Student Learning Services (SLS) are committed to providing comprehensive guidance on all aspects of effective and efficient learning. The ultimate aim of the service is to enable you to make the most of your academic studies at the University and for you to become an independent, successful learner during your time at the University of Stirling. This is facilitated through collaborative work with experienced tutors and by offering a variety of courses, workshops and tutorials.

All students, whatever stage of their academic studies, are welcome to use Student Learning Services. However the service may be particularly beneficial:

- In your first two years of study.
- If you are making the transition from college to Higher Education.
- If you have been out of education for some time.

What SLS are able to do:

- Advise you on academic skills relevant to your studies at University.
- Help you consolidate your previous learning and develop new learning strategies.
- Advise on action-plans to potentially improve grades.
- Suggest practical solutions if you feel overwhelmed by assignment work.
- Help you gain confidence in the transition to Higher Education.

More information can be found here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/campus-life/learning-support/student-learning-services/
STEER

STEER is a University-wide peer support scheme linking in returning student "Captains" with new undergraduate or taught post-graduate "Crew" during their first year at Stirling.

The scheme aims to help you make the most of your time at the University, help new students - the Crew - settle in and realise the opportunities available to them. You can find out more information here: https://www.stirlingstudentsunion.com/representation/studentsupport/steer/

Stirling Graduate School

For Research Postgraduate Students the Stirling Graduate School as well as your own faculty will provide support. More information can be found here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/graduateschool/current-pg-students/skills-development/

Academic and Pastoral Support

Adviser of Studies: Advisers have an important role to play in enhancing your academic and personal development and are essential to ensuring you make the most of your time at university. Advisers provide a personalised point of contact for you to discuss academic concerns or queries within the academic community. The general purpose of the role is to provide more in-depth advice on the academic options available to you and on the academic policies and regulations within the University. More information can be found here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/registry/advisers/

Personal Tutor: The role of a personal tutor is to help you feel part of the University community. They are a specific and consistent source of guidance, information and support for you throughout your studies. The tutor should be the your first formal point of contact for general academic guidance and pastoral support. More information can be found here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/tse/personal-tutor/

Support and Wellbeing: At university you may face non-academic issues where you need some expert help or guidance. There are lots of ways we can help you in your day-to-day life at University. Student Support Services provide a range of high-quality services to assist you during the course of your studies, help prepare you for life after graduation. We aim to enhance the student experience and help you to get the most out of your time at University. More information can be found here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/campus-life/support-and-wellbeing/

Student Union: you can also access support through the Students’ Union, more information can be found here: https://www.stirlingstudentsunion.com/representation/studentsupport/

Accessibility and Inclusion (A&I)

A&I are committed to offering a service which is welcoming and supportive of the needs of all students. Our service takes into account the full range of needs you may have, in a wide variety of circumstances including - physical and mobility difficulties, sensory impairments, specific learning difficulties including dyslexia and autistic spectrum disorder as well as medical conditions and mental health difficulties. A&I can also support you if you have short-term, temporary impairments or other difficulties as a result of an accident, injury, illness or surgery. More information can be found here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/student-support/accessibility-&-inclusion-service/

Learning Resources

You can find out more about the resources available to support your learning here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/campus-life/learning-support/
Section 4 Programme Evaluation and Enhancement

METHODS FOR EVALUATING AND IMPROVING THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

Module Evaluation
Module evaluations are carried out each year and are an important way of getting student feedback on the modules we teach. We aim to evaluate every module we teach in every semester. You can find out more here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/registry/studentinformation/moduleevaluation/

Programme Review
Programmes are reviewed annually and on a 5 yearly cycle. You can get involved in a variety of different ways; by completing module evaluations, becoming a course representative and attending Student Staff Consultative Committees, or participating in the review process itself. You can find out more here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/academicpolicy/handbook/review-and-monitoring/

External Examiner(s)
Name of External Examiner: Dr. Chloe Buckley
Institution: Manchester Metropolitan University

Section 5 My Future

WHAT KIND OF CAREER MIGHT I GO ON TO?

Students who completed this programme have been successful in obtaining employment in the media, journalism, publishing, the theatre, arts administration and various kinds of teaching, as well as in industry, commerce, law, computing, accountancy, human resources and social work. The transferable skills learned on this degree scheme enable former students open up a wide range of career possibilities.

Students with a degree in this programme have had careers in the following areas:

- Creative Industries
- Publishing
- Media, Film, Television
- Journalism: writing for magazines, newspapers and on-line publications
- Teaching (pre-higher education)
- Translation and Interpretation
- Leisure and Tourism
- Insurance industry
- Food service industry
- Finance and banking sector
- Fashion Industry
- Libraries, Books, Archives and Information Services

How does this programme facilitate your development of the Graduate Attributes?

- Group Presentations: working creatively with others
- Blog posts: communicating effectively through digital and other media
- International Readings: cultural understanding and transnational perspectives
- Engaging with Archives and Galleries: working with the wider community
- Interactions with people from across the world: becoming a global citizen
**Graduate Attributes**

Through studying your degree programme you will become a subject specialist, with in-depth knowledge, understanding and skills associated with their discipline(s). Our ambition is that you will also be confident, aspirational graduates with the right skills and attitudes to **connect; innovate and transform**. On this module you will have the opportunity to become:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Connected</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>With your discipline(s) knowledge, understanding and skills with a range of complex real world issues</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>with contributions from alumni, private, public and third sector to develop their employability skills</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>with knowledge, experiences, and people providing different perspectives, to understand different cultures, beliefs and traditions</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and work in an inclusive learning community and with the wider community</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and communicate effectively through digital and other media</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Innovative</th>
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<tr>
<td>through your active and ethical research</td>
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<tr>
<td>through using the latest global research and new technologies to develop new understandings and creative solutions</td>
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<tr>
<td>through independent critical and reflective thinking</td>
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<tr>
<td>through identifying opportunities to improve what they do and taking action</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Transformative</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>through your intellectual and cultural passion</td>
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<tr>
<td>through sharing new perspectives and broadening horizons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>through being professional, adaptable and resilient and equipped to succeed in the global market place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>through being an active global citizen who is socially, culturally, and environmentally aware.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**WHAT STUDY ABROAD OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?**
WHAT PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?

N/A

WHAT FURTHER STUDY OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE TO ME?

Our students sometimes pursue a doctoral degree after completing this programme of study.

WHAT OTHER INFORMATION DO I NEED TO KNOW?

N/A

Section 6 Admissions

HOW DO I ENTER THE PROGRAMME?

Admissions Criteria

A minimum of a second class Honours degree (2.1 preferred) or equivalent in a relevant subject. Applicants without these formal qualifications but with significant appropriate/relevant work/life experience are encouraged to apply. A sample of work (e.g. English Essay) is required.

If English is not your first language you must have one of the following qualifications as evidence of your English language skills:

- IELTS: 6.0 with 5.5 minimum in each skill
- Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE): Grade C
- Cambridge Certificate of Advanced English (CAE): Grade C
- Pearson Test of English (Academic): 54 with 51 in each component
- IBT TOEFL: 80 with no subtest less than 17

For more information go to English language requirements

If you don’t meet the required score you may be able to register for one of our pre-sessional English courses. To register you must hold a conditional offer for your course and have an IELTS score 0.5 or 1.0 below the required standard. View our range of pre-sessional courses.

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