

- Faculté des lettres et sciences humaines
- [www.unine.ch/lettres](http://www.unine.ch/lettres)

## Seminar 2: Medieval Literature : The Medieval Gothic (2AN2153)

| Filières concernées                                 | Nombre d'heures        | Validation      | Crédits ECTS |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| <b>Pilier B A - langue et littérature anglaises</b> | <b>Séminaire: 2 ph</b> | Voir ci-dessous | 6            |

ph=période hebdomadaire, pg=période globale, j=jour, dj=demi-jour, h=heure, min=minute

### Période d'enseignement:

- Semestre Automne

### Equipe enseignante

Dr. Katrin Rupp

### Contenu

Featuring monstrous creatures and other horrors, Gothic novels such as Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* (1818) and Bram Stoker's *Dracula* (1897) have remained popular to the present day. Gothic novels are "a genre of fiction characterized by suspenseful, sensational plots involving supernatural or macabre elements and often (esp. in early use) having a medieval theme or setting" (OED). Thus, the medieval past captured the imagination of Gothic writers in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. In this seminar, we will read medieval texts (in translation) featuring werewolves, dwarves, mummies, wizards and other marvelous creatures that may have served as sources of inspiration for Gothic novelists. We will examine how these creatures function in their environments and contexts. They may dwell in the East, in eerie forests or castles. They may address religious concerns such as the fear of eternal damnation; they may serve to criticise political agendas; they may raise socio-cultural questions about the definition of self and other; they may challenge the boundaries between species.

### Forme de l'évaluation

Regular attendance (pass/fail)

Completion of reading assignments (pass/fail)

In-class presentation (pass/fail)

A take-home essay, for which an outline is prepared in class; the essay must be your own work and may not make use of AI. It should be submitted electronically as a Word document by 15 March 2027 (100%).

The same applies if the course needs to be moved online.

### Modalités de rattrapage

A new essay or a thorough rewrite; to be submitted within a month after receiving the grade.

### Documentation

A course reader will be made available at the beginning of the semester.

### Pré-requis

Students ought to have completed their first year.

### Forme de l'enseignement

Seminar

### Objectifs d'apprentissage

Au terme de la formation l'étudiant-e doit être capable de :

- Apply medieval cultural concepts to medieval literature
- Analyse texts in a critical manner
- Develop an understanding of medieval culture
- Formulate relevant questions regarding the texts under discussion
- Present ideas in front of a group
- Discuss medieval texts in an informed way in groups and in class
- Produce a research paper based on the texts

### Compétences transférables

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- Apply knowledge to other texts / situations
- Carry out critical textual analyses
- Develop intellectual rigor and curiosity
- Communicate in English
- Generate new ideas