

Film Genres: Horror – FILM 2103

Mr. Blair and Mr. Billy

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This course explores classic and modern horror films as a study of an often-neglected yet highly-influential genre. By critically screening horror films, students will investigate fundamental questions about the genre through a number of critical lenses. The course will explore the origins, development and problems of horror films with major emphasis on film form and analysis.

Required text: The Horror Film by Peter Hutchings, available at the CASC Bookstore.

Purpose: This course exists to familiarize you with a particular type of film, horror. By the end of this class, you should know and be able to use horror film terminology, understand and intelligently discuss horror films, and analyze them using different critical approaches.

**Attendance:** At the beginning of the class, you have 100 points for attendance (a perfect test grade, in other words). You are allowed one unexcused absence for the semester. After that, I reduce your attendance grade by 50 percent for each absence. I may administratively withdraw you from the course under some circumstances. Habitual lateness will lead to absences.

**Assignments:** You will be evaluated based on your performance on weekly quizzes, response papers (quasi-weekly), the mid-term examination, the final examination, attendance and participation points.

Academic honesty: You will fail the course if you cheat in any way, have plagiarized anyone else's work, or have "borrowed" (via cut and paste) material from the Internet. Only your original thoughts are accepted in this course.

Electronic devices: Turn off your cell phone when you come into class. Do not text people or receive texts during the class.

Class format: Three hours of academic credit are awarded to you upon completion of this course. It meets only on Monday, so your class time is roughly 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The beginning of class will be devoted to quizzes and lecture, followed (usually) by a complete screening of that week's film.

**The Films:** A vast array of wonderful horror films have been made from the 1960s to present. We will present a small sampling of them. The instructors are fans of both flashy, slick productions and independent, no-budget, horror films. You'll see a little bit of everything in this course, including some you may have already seen. Even if you have already seen a week's film, you should attend class to get new perspective and to refresh your interpretation. We have deliberately chosen a variety of directors and sub-genres for your enjoyment, and we hope our selections pique your interest.

A final note: **all** of the films we will view contain **extreme violence and perhaps sex, cursing, and other subjects you may find controversial or disturbing**. If any of these topics (or R-rated movies in general) offend you so badly you will be unable to participate, it may be best to drop the class. However, if you can be mature and allow yourself to be challenged, it may be a worthwhile experience.

*Carl Albert State College complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Students with disabilities who need special accommodations should make requests in the following way:*

*Talk with you instructor after class or during office hours about your disability or special needs related to work in class.*

*Complete the Request for Special Accommodations Form with the ADA Coordinator in Hemphill Hall.*