



**Definitive Programme Document**

# **MA in Crime and Gothic Fictions**

Awarding institution	Bath Spa University
Teaching institution	Bath Spa University
School	College of Liberal Arts / Research and Graduate Affairs
Department	Culture and Environment
Main campus	Corsham Court
Other sites of delivery	Newton Park
Other Schools involved in delivery	N/A
Name of award(s)	MA Crime and Gothic Fictions
Qualification (final award)	MA
Intermediate awards available	PgCert, PgDip
Routes available	Single
Duration of award	1 year full-time / 2 years part-time
Sandwich period	No
Modes of delivery offered	Campus-based
Regulatory Scheme <sup>1</sup>	Taught Postgraduate Framework
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body accreditation	
Date of most recent PSRB approval (month and year)	N/A
Renewal of PSRB approval due (month and year)	N/A
UCAS code	
Route code (SITS)	
Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements (including date of publication)	English- February 2015 (Bachelor's degree with honours) Master Degree Characteristics
Date of most recent approval	N/A
Date specification last updated	July 2017
Awarding institution	Bath Spa University

## **Programme Overview**

Two leading areas of genre fiction, those of Crime Fiction and the Gothic, are well established at undergraduate level at Bath Spa University. Both Crime and Gothic fictions offer contemporary and historically relevant narratives and are ideal genres to study together at MA level. Crime Fiction arose partly out of the Gothic genre and the programme offers you the opportunity to trace their similarities while being sensitive to their divergences and differing perspectives.

These popular areas of study inform and respond to the complex, precarious situation of life in the contemporary world, encompassing social, historical, psychological and ethical debates within their remit. The world leading research and expertise offered by the teaching team of Bath Spa's MA Crime and Gothic Fictions, addresses broad ideas about genre theory, criminality, responsibility, social change and human relationships.

This programme is an opportunity to acquire new skills, offering highly varied methodologies and critical approaches, resulting in forms of knowledge that encompass and challenge established historical and contemporary elements of the topics studied, alongside introducing new and challenging international writing and associated disciplinary perspectives and approaches. Core modules taught by leading specialists offer both different perspectives on established elements of the genres alongside challenging introductions to new writing while maintaining a variety of critical approaches, such as the centrality of issues of politics and trauma through emerging post-regime Latin American Crime Fiction and the rise of new technologies, crises in health and human wellbeing, and the culture of neoliberalism in contemporary Gothic.

MA Crime and Gothic Fictions is designed to encourage you to take new approaches while consolidating your expertise within Literary Studies and Film through the diverse expertise offered by the teaching team and associated guest speakers. The wide ranging taught remit of the MA will enable you to develop the skills to tackle a significant research project in the form of the dissertation. This makes the journey through the MA an intellectually exciting and personally transformative. Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary research methods training will be offered both through the specific shared research module and embedded in subject specific modules, providing you with the confidence to plan and embark on your own choice of dissertation. The research methods training will enable you to continue onto doctoral studies in the humanities. Studying two diverse yet complimentary genres, both gaining in importance and popularity, will allow you to both develop your expertise in a central strand of English Literature. At the same time, you can be confident that the MA Crime and Gothic Fictions will provide cross-disciplinary skills and expertise which will meet the growing demand for such graduates in today's competitive environment.

## Programme Aims

The overall aim of this programme is to enable students to bring their knowledge from the humanities and social sciences into diverse and challenging critical conversations with the particular genres offered and their relationships with the wider cultural and social context of the world around them. In this programme you will study:

1. How specific subject areas are shaped and developed by social and cultural factors that then allow the genres to offer insights and conversations with the broader world beyond the university.
2. Key concepts and critical ways of thinking that have been developed within Literary and Film Studies.
3. Interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary approaches across a range of disciplines in the humanities.
4. Ways of bringing together different kinds of knowledge (e.g. literary, philosophical, psych-geographical, cultural) in order to address historical and contemporary complex social and psychic problems.

## Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs) (NB These ILOs are at level 7 of the FHEQ)

### A Subject-specific Skills and Knowledge

- A1 The student will gain an enhanced understanding of the international, historical and contemporary interrelationships between genres, and of the relationship of popular literatures to crucial social, cultural, medical and sexual issues through genre theory and other methodologies.
- A2 an awareness not merely of current research and theory but also of the emerging interdisciplinary approaches which are likely to inform future scholarship;
- A3 an awareness of how the two central generic forms of Crime and Gothic fictions have become stylistically and thematically imbricated since the nineteenth century, and how their relationships have informed other areas of culture;
- A4 skills in the application of interdisciplinary methods to address the content of, and issues raised by, historical and contemporary fictions.

### B Cognitive and Intellectual Skills

- B1 The student will gain ability to reflect critically on the function and influence of popular and generic fiction;
- B2 engage with complex literary and cultural problems both systematically and with interdisciplinary and international awareness
- B3 present their work in a written form that accords with the norms of evidence and conventions of presentation in the Liberal Arts
- B4 an appropriate level of self-direction and originality in formulating, planning and investigating a research topic, which could potentially form the foundation for doctoral study or employment in a profession demanding advanced skills of critical analysis, creative thinking, and oral and written argumentation.

### C Skills for Life and Work

- C1 Autonomous learning (including time management) that demonstrates the exercise of initiative, personal responsibility and decision-making in complex and unpredictable

situations and the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development

- C2 Team working skills necessary to succeed in the global workplace, with an ability both to work in and lead teams effectively, as well as the ability to act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level
- C3 Communication skills that show the ability to communicate clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences knowledge at, or informed by, the forefront of the academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice, and the conclusions drawn from dealing with complex issues systematically
- C4 IT skills and digital literacy that demonstrate the ability to develop new skills to a high level and to approach complex issues systematically and creatively

## Intermediate awards

### PgCert Intended Learning Outcomes

All

### PgDip Intended Learning Outcomes

All

## Programme content

This programme comprises the following modules

### Key:

Core = C; Compulsory = R (ie 'required'); Optional = O; Not available for this status = N/A  
If a particular status is greyed out, it is not offered for this programme.

### Subject offered as single and/or joint programme

MA Crime and Gothic Fictions				Status	
Level	Code	Title	Credits	Single	Joint
7	EN7005	Research: Methods, Resources, Dissemination	30	C	
7	EN7010	Crime and the Gothic: Pasts and Presents	30	C	
7	EN7011	International Crime and Gothic	30	C	
7	EN7012	Crime Stories: From Page to Screen	30	C	
7	EN7013	Dissertation	60	C	

### Subject offered with pathways

N/A (no pathways)

### Assessment methods

A range of summative assessment tasks will be used to test the Intended Learning Outcomes in each module. These are indicated in the attached assessment map which shows which tasks are used in which modules.

Students will be supported in their development towards summative assessment by appropriate formative exercises.

Please note: if you choose an optional module from outside this programme, you may be required to undertake a summative assessment task that does not appear in the assessment grid here in order to pass that module.

### Work experience and placement opportunities

Placement opportunities may be available during the annual Captivating Criminality Conference, held at Corsham Court, and at International Gothic Association symposia in the UK. Students will have the opportunity to join the academic networks associated with the subject areas covered by the dissertation, and these will facilitate further personal development opportunities (for example, acting as a student representative, guest-blogging or reviewing). Student conferences are regularly organised in the UK by the International Gothic Association. Faculty delivering the programme will make students aware of their own relevant external links and networks, and draw on these as appropriate.

### Graduate Attributes

	Bath Spa Graduates...	In [subject], we enable this...
1	Will be employable: equipped with the skills necessary to flourish in the global workplace, able to work in and lead teams.	Students of the MACGF will be well placed to participate in the global workplace due to the explicitly international focus of the programme. In addition, they will have opportunities to work in and lead teams, throughout the course, as participants in student-led work in all seminars.
2	Will be able to understand and manage complexity, diversity and change.	The acquisition of advanced analytical skills taught throughout the programme, which can be applied, to understanding and managing complexity and change both inside and outside of academia.
3	Will be creative: able to innovate and to solve problems by working across disciplines as professional or artistic practitioners.	The exploration of interdisciplinary methodologies is central to all taught elements of the programme. These include intersections between the arts and the sciences (medical humanities, most notably), and between written and visual cultural artefacts. Problem-solving is, likewise, central to the research training provided by EN7005.
4	Will be digitally literate: able to work at the interface of creativity and technology.	Digital literacy will be embedded in all modules, most explicitly in EN7005 where students encounter advanced research skills in digital humanities.
5	Will be internationally networked: either by studying abroad for part of their programme, or studying alongside students from overseas.	It is anticipated that this programme will attract students from abroad, and international content will be embedded in across the modules. In <i>International Crime and Gothic</i> , the customary Anglo-American boundaries of study will be supplemented by innovative work from Scandinavia and Latin America.
6	Will be creative thinkers, doers and makers.	The dissertation demands high levels of independent thought. The critical-intellectual engagement also requires highly imaginative, speculative thinking in response to the complex problems that emerge from the cultural-historical conjunctures of both genres.
7	Will be critical thinkers: able to express their ideas in written and oral form, and possessing information literacy.	The whole programme, especially but not exclusively in the independent dissertation or project, requires high levels of critical thinking, based on extensive research involving information literacy.

8	Will be ethically aware: prepared for citizenship in a local, national and global context.	Given that the two central genres have historically addressed, and continue to interrogate, ethical and cultural issues from ecology through to sexism, internationalism, and globalisation, this programme fulfils this requirement with regard to the development of an aware citizenship.
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**Modifications**

Module-level modifications

Code	Title	Nature of modification	Date(s) of approval and approving bodies	Date modification comes into effect

Programme-level modifications

Nature of modification	Date(s) of approval and approving bodies	Date modification comes into effect

**Attached as appendices:**

1. Programme structure diagram
2. Map of module outcomes to level/programme outcomes
3. Assessment map
4. Module descriptors

## Appendix 1: Programme structure

### FT route

#### TRIMESTER ONE

**EN7005-30** Research: Methods, Resources, Dissemination (30)

**EN7010-30** Crime and the Gothic: Pasts and Presents (30)

#### TRIMESTER TWO

**EN7011-30** International Crime and Gothic (30)

**EN7012-30** Crime Stories: From Page to Screen (30)

#### TRIMESTER THREE

**EN7013-60** Dissertation (60)

### PT route First year

#### TRIMESTER ONE

**EN7010-30** Crime and the Gothic: Pasts and Presents (30)

#### TRIMESTER TWO

**EN7012-30** Crime Stories: From Page to Screen (30)

#### TRIMESTER THREE

**EN7013-60** Dissertation (60) – will be continued in Trimester 3 of year 2

### PT route Second year

#### TRIMESTER ONE

**EN7005** Research: Methods, Resources, Dissemination (30)

#### TRIMESTER TWO

**EN7011-30** International Crime and Gothic (30)

#### TRIMESTER THREE

**EN7013-60** Dissertation (60) continued from year 1

## Appendix 2: Map of module outcomes to level/programme outcomes

Please indicate (✓) in the relevant boxes the modules in which level/programme Intended Learning Outcomes are being assessed.

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Status (C,R,O) <sup>1</sup>	Intended Learning Outcomes											
				Subject-specific Skills and Knowledge				Cognitive and Intellectual Skills				Skills for Life and Work			
				A 1	A 2	A 3	A 4	B 1	B 2	B 3	B 4	C 1	C 2	C 3	C 4
7	EN7005-30	Research: Methods, Resources, Dissemination	C	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
7	EN7010-30	Crime and the Gothic: Pasts and Presents	C	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
7	EN7011-30	International Crime and Gothic	C	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
7	EN7012-30	Crime Stories: From Page to Screen	C	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
7	EN7013-60	Dissertation	C	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

<sup>1</sup> C = Core; R = Compulsory (ie required for this route); O = Optional

## Appendix 3: Assessment Map

### Map of summative assessment tasks by module

#### [MA Crime and Gothic Fictions]



Please indicate in the relevant boxes which summative assessment methods are used in each module and, where appropriate, the assessment length.

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Status (C,R,O) <sup>2</sup>	Assessment method														
				Coursework						Practical					Written Examination			
				Composition	Dissertation	Essay	Journal	Portfolio	Report	Performance	Practical Project	Practical skills	Presentation	Set exercises	Written Examination	In-class test (seen)	In-class test (unseen)	
7	EN7005-30	Research: Methods, Resources, Dissemination	C			1 x 3500 words				1500 words								
7	EN7010-30	Crime and the Gothic: Pasts and Presents	C			2 x 3500 words												
7	EN7011-30	International Crime and Gothic	C			2 x 3500 words												

<sup>2</sup> C = Core; R = Compulsory (ie required for this route); O = Optional

7	EN7012-30	Crime Stories: From Page to Screen	C			2 x 3500 words											
7	EN7013-60	Dissertation	C		15000 words												