Southern Maine Community College

FIGS 100-04: Tales of Terror and Madness
1 credit / 15 contact hours

Fall 2020; Brightspace
Mike Bove: Associate Professor of English - mbove@smccme.edu
Office: Preble 105

Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday:12:30-2:00, Monday & Friday by appointment

---

Course Description:
Stories of madness and the macabre have been thrilling readers for centuries. Whether exploring the supernatural or exposing the terrors in everyday life, short fiction's focus on the grotesque reveals our fascination with mystery and the unknown. This course will examine how stories work so that students may gain a clearer understanding of readers' attraction to these themes across time and cultures. Particular attention will be paid to critical thinking and active reading skills, as well as the writing process: research, drafting, revising, and editing. Weekly readings will be discussed, and primary course focus will include effective note taking, research skills, time management, accessing college resources, and successful study habits.

After successfully completing the course, the student will be able to:

Content Objectives:

1. Describe and apply effective study skills, test taking, and time management strategies.
2. Explore career and academic opportunities using a variety of tools.
3. Develop and articulate achievable academic goals.
4. Demonstrate proper note taking techniques using the Cornell method.
5. Apply the concept of SQ3R to reading a textbook.

Writing Objectives:

1. Show ability to communicate clearly, with a specific purpose and to a specific audience, utilizing strategies for varying contexts and logical organization methods.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of literary analysis and comparison/contrast rhetorical modes and identify appropriate uses for each.
3. Apply revision methods to achieve polished final draft/presentation, using standard academic format and conventions of grammar.
4. When necessary, utilize information-literacy skills, including analysis of print and web-based materials and proper MLA and/or APA documentation.
5. Use critical thinking and listening skills in written and oral communication as a tool for learning.

Required Materials:
Access to the Internet and Brightspace

Grading/Assignments:
I use a system of points in this class. You have the ability to earn up to 1000 points, which then corresponds to your final letter grade. This is transferable to SMCC's grading policy. (A = 93-100 [930-1000 points], A- = 90-92 [900-920 points], B+ = 87-89 [870-890 points], B = 83-86 [830-860 points], etc.) There is no extra credit. Keep track of your points this semester. The break-down of the points is as follows:

iGrad Financial Literacy Assignment	150 points (15%)
Career Beam Assignment	150 points (15%)
Weekly Reading Responses:	200 points (20%)
Research Assignment:	500 points (50%)

College Policies

End-of-Course Evaluation

Students complete evaluations for each course attended at SMCC. Evaluations are submitted online and can be accessed through the student portal. Students can access the course evaluations beginning one week before the end of classes. The deadline for submission of evaluations occurs Monday at 5 p.m. following the last day of the class. You will receive an e-mail to your student e-mail account when course evaluations are available.

For Classes with any Face- to -Face Component

While the syllabus represents current plans, there may be changes during the semester in response to the on-going Covid-19 pandemic. Depending on the progression of the virus, it is possible that the College may have to suspend face-to-face instruction for part of the semester. If we must stop face to face instruction anytime during the se- mester, your instructor will contact you via your SMCC email or the Brightspace course homepage to discuss next steps for the course.

ADA Statement

Southern Maine Community College is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution and employer. For more information, please call (207) 741-5798. If you have a disabling condition and wish to request accommodations in order to have reasonable access to

the programs and services offered by SMCC, you must register with the Disability Services Coordinator, Sandra Lynham, who can be reached at 741-5923. Further information about services for students with disabilities and the accommodation process is available upon request at this number. Course policies about online testing are modified to suit each individual's accommodations.

The Learning Commons:

The library, tutoring and writing centers, and reference/research assistance (typically located on the second floor of South Portland's Campus Center and in the Midcoast's LL Bean Learning Commons and Health Science Center) will be fully available online during the fall 2020 semester.
Here you can find free academic support through individually scheduled and drop in, online tutoring. You can also find information literacy/research librarians, and professional academic strategy/planning mentoring online. While the physical space of the Learning Commons will not be available at this time, we can also work with you to set up zoom classrooms for small group study. Services are offered by appointment or as drop-in assistance.
To access services:
•   Visit My Learning in My Maine Guide or
•   Select the "tutoring needed" button if it appears inside your Brightspace course.
Whether On Site or Online, students have consistently reported that the Learning Commons is a friendly, risk-free, and helpful place to seek academic support. It has also been shown that those who make use of the Learning Commons do better in a course than those who do not. We strongly encourage you to take advantage of this valuable and enjoyable resource.

SMCC Pay-for-Print Policy

Each semester students receive a $20 printing credit. The balance resets at the end of the semester and any remaining credits are removed. The College's pay-for-print system monitors printing on all printers (including those in general access labs, library printers, Tutoring Services, Campus Center Lounge and technology labs). Be sure to log OUT of the system when you've finished your printing, to prevent unauthorized access to your account. Students can check the number of pages they have printed by using the Printing Balance tool available on SMCC computers (located in the lower right corner of the screen, near the clock). Departments with work study students who need

to print documents for the department should contact the Help Desk at 741-5696 to have a special account set up. To find ways to reduce your printing charges, please go to the IT Help tab on My SMCC. If you have questions about the pay-for-printing policy or your printing charges, please contact the Help Desk at 741-5696 or send an e-mail to helpdesk@smccme.edu.

Refunds

Print jobs are eligible for a refund in the event of mechanical or electronic error on the part of the printer, print server, or software used to submit the job. Jobs are not eligible for a refund in cases where the job was not set up correctly, was submitted multiple times, or the student is not satisfied with the result. To request a refund, please bring the offending print to the IT Department in the basement of the Ross Technology Center. Refunds will be granted in the form of a credit to the student's account.

Add-Drop Policy

Students who drop a course during the one-week "add/drop" period in the fall and spring semesters and the first three days of summer sessions receive a 100% refund of the tuition and associated fees for that course. Please note any course that meets for less than the traditional semester length, i.e., 15 weeks, has a pro-rated add/drop period. There is no refund for non-attendance.

Withdrawal Policy

A student may withdraw from a course only during the semester in which s/he is registered for that course. The withdrawal period is the second through twelfth week of the Fall and Spring semesters and the second through ninth week of twelve-week Summer courses. This period is pro-rated for shorter-length courses, usually 75 percent of course meeting times; please check with the Registration Office. To withdraw from a course, a student must complete and submit the appropriate course withdrawal form, available at the Registration Office. This process must be completed either in person or by using SMCC e-mail accounts.

Plagiarism Statement

If an instructor suspects that a student has knowingly committed a violation defined in the Maine Community College System Policy on Student Grade Appeals and Academic Misconduct, the instructor has the authority to review the alleged misconduct and de-

termine the grade that the student should receive for the assignment and the course. The instructor may assign a failing grade for the assignment or course and may require the student to complete additional work for the course. The instructor may consult with the department chair and/or the College's chief academic officer prior to making such decisions. If a student seeks to challenge an instructor's determination, the student should submit a grade appeal. Grade appeal forms are available in the Advising Office on the South Portland Campus or in the administrative offices in the Learning Commons on the Midcoast Campus. An instructor may also refer the matter to the College's disciplinary officer for review under the procedures of the MCCS Student Code of Conduct.