

EXAMINATION

Course code: SFE21417	Course: The Gothic, American Style (MEN)
Date: 6 December 2018	Duration: 5 hours
Permitted sources: English-English Dictionary	Lecturer: Dr. Johanna Wagner
The examination: The examination papers consist of 4 pages inclusive of this page. Please check that the examination papers are complete before you start answering the questions.	
Date of announcement of the examination results: 27 December 2018 The examination results are available on the Studentweb www.hiof.no/studentweb	

SECTION 1: (30%)



I. Matching (8 pts)

Match the left terms with the *most closely correlated* term/subject/definition/title on the right. Only one correct answer per question, and no terms can be re-used.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Sublime _____ | A. Heimlich/Unheimlich |
| 2. Psychological ghost story _____ | B. "A Good Man is Hard to Find" |
| 3. Uncanny _____ | C. "The Lottery" |
| 4. Native Americans _____ | D. Terror and beauty |
| 5. Redemption, Grace _____ | E. "August 2026: There Will Come Soft Rains" |
| 6. Magical Realism _____ | F. "The Turn of the Screw" |
| 7. Tradition _____ | G. <i>Paradise</i> |
| 8. Post apocalyptic _____ | H. "Dear John Wayne" |

II. Fill in the Blank (3 pts)

Each excerpt is from material you've read throughout the semester. Identify the text (full title) and the author (full name).

- "They shoot the White girl first." (1 pt)
Text _____
Author _____

- "Dying
Is an art, like everything else.
I do it exceptionally well." (2 pts)

Text _____
Author _____

III. True/False (4 pts)

- Addie Bundren is the center of consciousness in *As I Lay Dying* T _____ F _____
- Roderick is the protagonist in "The Fall of the House of Usher" T _____ F _____
- Constance poisons her entire family T _____ F _____
- In "The Quadroons" a young woman is enslaved because of the one-drop rule T _____ F _____

IV. Multiple Choice (3 pts)

Choose the best word(s) that correctly complete(s) the phrase relevant to this course.

1. In *Quicksand*, Helga Crane is the _____
 - a. Center of Consciousness
 - b. Protagonist
 - c. Antagonist
 - d. All of the above
 - e. None of the above

2. The beginnings of the American Gothic was primarily influenced by _____
 - a. The Victorians
 - b. The Realists
 - c. The Modernists
 - d. The Romantics

3. “Anything can happen in the _____; may I kiss you.”
 - a. sand
 - b. city
 - c. woods
 - d. crowd

V. Short Answer (12 pts)

Answer all questions **fully, but briefly**. These are *not* essay questions; therefore a few sentence should be sufficient for each question.

1. “The Fall of the House of Usher” and “The Turn of the Screw” handle two different transgressions of a sexual nature. Name each transgression, its corresponding text, and the characters involved.

2. In “Pawn shop” by Sherman Alexie, the speaker finds what pieces of personal property underneath the glass display case? What does this symbolize? (Be specific about the peoples’ cultural group.)

3. Briefly explain the idea of the sublime connected to the gothic (definition from the class, not the dictionary).

4. Briefly explain why the end of “The Lottery” by Shirley Jackson is so shocking, especially juxtaposed against its beginning.

5. The protagonist in H.P. Lovecraft’s “The Rats in the Walls” begins speaking various languages at the end of the story. What is the significance of these languages? What does it symbolize is happening to the protagonist?

6. Why is the image of a Native American audience cheering at a film in Louise Erdrich’s “Dear John Wayne” so uncannily disturbing to the reader? Define uncanny and then briefly explain.

SECTION 2 (Literature Essay): (70%)

Write an essay on **ONE** of the topics below. The essay does not need to be a certain length, but must develop your points sufficiently to make your argument. **REMEMBER:** The material you use should come from the course. Define your terms; a strong thesis should guide your work; the parts of an essay are important; and examples always help.

1. Gothic literature often blurs our understanding of good and evil, protagonist and antagonist. Discuss how the governess in “The Turn of the Screw” tries very hard to be a good moral influence, but may have very well failed in this capacity, and could have been the means for exactly the opposite. Be as specific as you can in your examples from the story. If you can’t remember names, explain the characters so the reader understands about who it is you are talking. Define any specific terms you use.
2. Gothic texts transgress taboos, often questioning easy narratives about life and the world in which we live. Using your understanding of the special kind of fairytale *Into the Woods* is, discuss the witch’s role in the fairytale and compare her to the other characters’ roles. What is interesting about her character placed up against the human characters? What is the significance of her leaving the group? Be as specific as you can in your examples from the story to support your points. If you can’t remember names, explain the characters so the reader understands who you are talking about. Define any specific terms you use.
3. Utopian places often end up being dystopian places in gothic literature. Explore how the utopian space in “August 2026” OR *Paradise* became their exact opposites. What did the creators want for these utopias? What were they intended to do? What happened to make them into the dystopias they came to be? Remember both texts have important historical contexts that are significant: “August 2026” was published in 1950, and the story of *Paradise* begins in 1890. Be as specific as you can in your examples from the story to support your points. If you can’t remember names, explain the characters so the reader understands who you are talking about. Remember to define your terms.