Novel

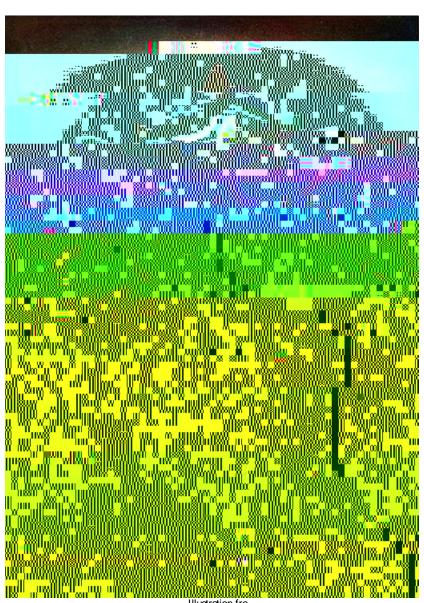


Illustration fro

Dr. Christopher Keep Email: ckeep@uwo.ca

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 2:30-3

The late-nineteenth century witnessed a dramatic revival of interest in the supernatural in Great Britain. Science, it seemed, had not abolished the belief in immaterial essences and miraculous occurrences, so much as it had provided new grounds for studying their empirical nature and puzzling phenomenology. The age of the telegraph and the steamship was also that of the spiritualist medium and astral voyaging. Indeed, the two realms, that of the natural and the supernatural, appeared interdependent; the same ideas and terminology used to describe electrical communications with the far-flung outposts of empire were also those used to describe

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supernatural, was one the marvels of the age. Respected writers such as Alfred, Lord Tennyson and Arthur Conan Doyle, scientists such as Alfred Russel Wallace (the co-discoverer of the theory of evolution), Sir William Crookes (the inventor of the radiometer), and Sir Oliver Lodge (a pioneer in wireless telegraphy), and philosophers such as Henri Bergson and William James all dedicated considerable energy to such investigations. But perhaps it is Freud who best summed up the vibrant sense of promise that characterized this period of intere

the Eerie, Repeater, 2106, pp. 8-13.

Repeater, 2106, pp. 15-25.

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Freud, Sigmund. The Uncanny. Translated by David Mclintock, Penguin, 2003.

Supernatural Sherlocks: Stories from the Golden

The Weird and the Eerie,

Age of the Occult Detective, edited by Nick Rennison, No Exit, 2017, pp. 137-59.

The Altar of the Dead.

-64.

Woman's World, vol. 1, 1888,

pp. 31-32.

Participation: 15%

Three Response Papers (500 words each): 5% each

Seminar Presentation and Report: 30% Research Essay (10-12 pages): 40%

English 4351F is a seminar course, a learning space in which the students share with the instructor the responsibility for the production of knowledge, that is to say, for how we will approach the assigned texts and the nature of the conclusions that we will draw from them. Participation is a vital part of the course; students should feel enfranchised to make their views known, while, at the same time, respecting the importance of the views and opinions of the other members of the seminar. Participation will count for fifteen

participation, students must attend class regularly, arrive in class having read the assigned material, and make occasion

class regularly, arrive in class having not only read the assigned material, but having clearly thought carefully about it, and contribute comments and questions that demonstrate a superior grasp of the texts and critical issues of the course.

A response paper is a 500-word (or two-three page, double-spaced) reflection on one of the assigned texts or thematic issues developed in the course. It is your opportunity to reflect in an *analytical* manner on the themes, issues, or concerns that arise from the readings, lectures, discussions or other

the Owl no later than 4:30 on the date they are due early submissions are welcome!

The seminar presentation is a twenty to thirty minute oral presentation conducted in class. Each presentation should provide a general introduction to a major figure, organisation, or event related to psychical research in the late-nineteenth century. Who were these people, what was this organisation, when did these events occur? But more than presenting the basic historical facts related to the topic, the presentation should strive to suggest what was important or distinctive about this figure, organisation, or event, both to an understanding of the scientific investigation of paranormal phenomena, and, more broadly, to our understanding of British culture at the fin de siècle. What does this topic tell us about Victorian attitudes toward ideas about gender, race, or sexuality; what does it suggest about how the Victorians conceived the idea of the mind, body, and identity? Such questions, of course, are meant to be suggestive rather than prescriptive you and your partner are free to develop your seminar as you like, so long as it provides us with both a well-researched overview of the main facts related to the topic and an opportunity consider how this topic might serve to deepen or further our understanding of the period. Please feel free to use handouts (a working bibliography of the books and articles you found most useful can be especially helpful). overheads, video, dry ice, laser lights, or whatever other audio-visual means you feel would complement the presentation.

Following your oral presentation, you and your partner will be required to submit a report of the form. The report should be submitted no later than forty-eight hours after the in-class presentation,

You will be expected to use at least three secondary sources, but the essay is not to be a review of such secondary literature. Rather, you should carefully distinguish your argument from that of other

relationship to the issue that you have chosen to study. A useful place to begin such research is with the list of major monographs on the topic of occult and spiritualist studies in the Appendix to this syllabus. This list is by no means exhaustive, and it does not include the primary works you may want to explore (su

telepathy), but the texts listed there should offer you a good sense of the range of issues related to the study of the paranormal at the fin de siècle.

All assignments will be

-space and use a 12-point font. A title-page is not necessary, but the first page must include the title of the essay, your name, the cours name, and the date.

Originality of argument, the ability to support the argument with reference to the primary text, rhetorical persuasiveness, syntax, grammar, spelling, and accurate bibliographic citation will all be factors in the grading of the essay.

All bibliographic notation will employ the MLA method of parenthetical notation and a works cited page. Please consult a standard style guide such as the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers (9th ed.), which is available in the reference shelves of the D.B. Weldon Library. A good online guide to the MLA method can be found heteronce shelves of the D.B. Weldon Library. A good online guide to the MLA method can be found heteronce shelves of the D.B. Weldon Library. A good online guide to the MLA method can be found heteronce shelves of the D.B. Weldon Library. A good online guide to the MLA method can be found heteronce shelves of the D.B. Weldon Library. A good online guide to the MLA method can be found heteronce shelves of the D.B. Weldon Library. A good online guide to the MLA method can be found heteronce shelves-papers (a hour shelves-papers)

September	14	Introduction: The Darwin Séance		
	21			
		Place and the Out of Time		
	28	Doyle, Hound of the Baskervilles		
October	5			

	19	Haggard, She			
		Seminar: Madame Blavatsky and Theosophy			
	26	Haggard, She			
		Seminar: Hélène Smith and Clairvoyance			
November	2				