

[Find out more](#)

Contact Dr Peter Howell,  
Programme Director  
+44 (0)20 8240 4124  
peter.howell@stmarys.ac.uk

[www.stmarys.ac.uk/gothic](http://www.stmarys.ac.uk/gothic)

# MA in Gothic: Culture, Subculture, Counterculture

St Mary's  
University  
Twickenham  
London

School of Arts  
& Humanities



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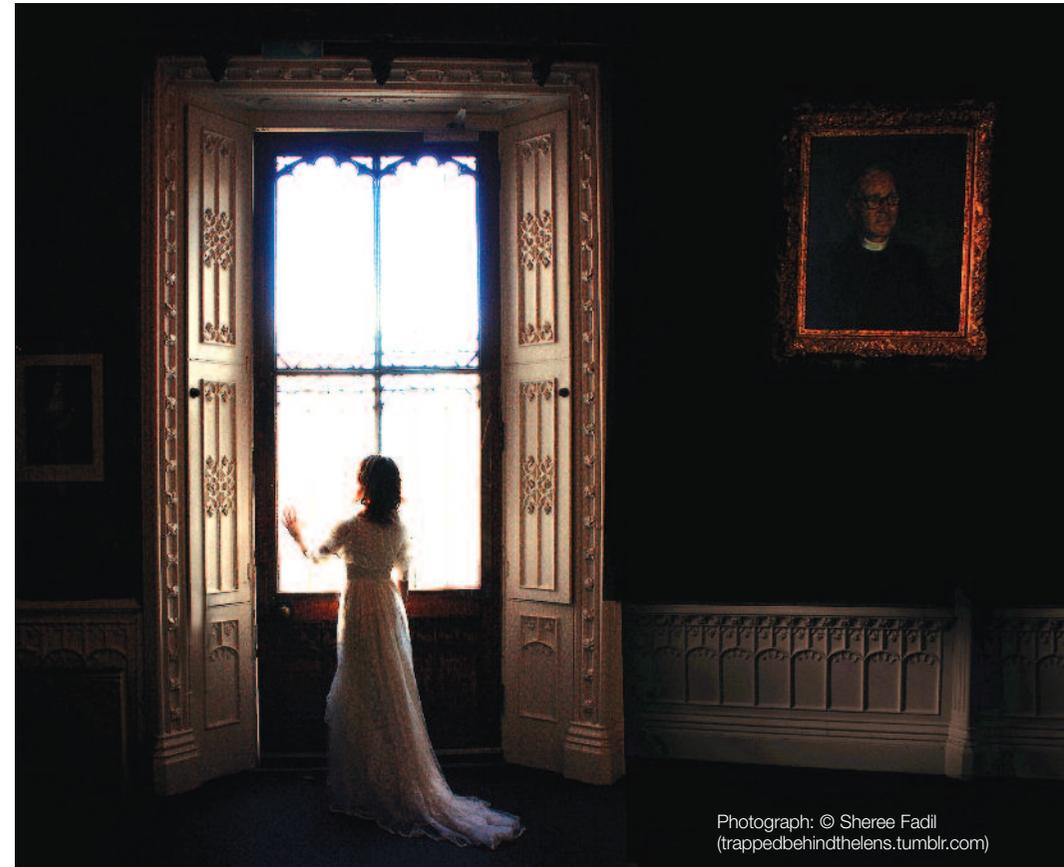
St Mary's University  
Waldegrave Road  
Twickenham  
London  
TW1 4SX

[Call us](#)

T +44 (0) 20 8240 4000  
F +44 (0) 20 8240 4255

[Find us online](#)

[www.stmarys.ac.uk](http://www.stmarys.ac.uk)



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# MA in Gothic: Culture, Subculture, Counterculture

MA, PG Diploma,  
PG Certificate

St Mary's University  
Twickenham London

Why has the 'Gothic' been so prevalent in the fields of literature, art, architecture, film and music in the past 250 years? What does this tell us about ourselves, and the society in which we live? How has the genre changed, and how is it possible for us to define our identities within, and in relation to, the Gothic?

These are some of the questions you will be invited to consider on this course, which gives you the opportunity to study the fascinating subject of Gothic culture, in all its many forms, where it all began: on the site of Horace Walpole's Gothic mansion in Strawberry Hill, west London.

Taught by experts in the fields of literature, film, cultural studies, art and architecture, the course will encourage you to read and reflect on the tradition that starts with Horace Walpole and ends – for the time being – with True Blood and the Twilight saga.

## What you will study

The course covers Gothic culture from 1750 to the present day, and also provides a grounding in critical theory and research methods suitable for advanced study. You will complete the following modules:

### ▶ Semester I

- Academic Orientation
- Researching Modernities
- Gothic Origins 1750-1850

### ▶ Semester II

- The Modern Gothic 1840-1960
- Contemporary Gothic in Film and Popular Culture
- Research Methods

There is also a compulsory dissertation to be written during the summer; this will be an original piece of research on a topic of your choice, from Ann Radcliffe, through Edgar Allan Poe, to Buffy the Vampire Slayer. You will be carefully guided in your choice of topic based on personal interests and experiences, and supervised in your studies throughout.

## Why this course is different

Students on this course have on-site access to the historic Gothic 'castle' at Strawberry Hill, the birthplace of Gothic fiction and architecture. There is also the unique resource of the Strawberry Hill Library, with collections relating to Horace Walpole, and to Gothic culture in general.

## Teaching and assessment

Most teaching takes place in the evenings, making this course suitable for those in full or part-time work. There will usually be two sessions of lectures and seminars every week, supplemented by individual tutorials as required. There is also the option of taking modules via intensive study weekends.

## Professional development and career progression

The course is designed for those who have recently graduated in English, history, film studies, cultural studies, or a related discipline, as a sound route towards starting on doctoral studies and a career in academia. It is equally suited to those coming back to formal education after a period of time, and full support is given in the acquisition of the kind of research, analytic and writing skills you'll need to succeed.

The content of this course makes it of relevance to those wishing to pursue careers in heritage and arts management – and of course the kind of research, evaluation and advocacy you'll be practising are essential skills in today's jobs market.

## Staff profiles

For full profiles of staff see [www.stmarys.ac.uk/postgraduate-courses-london/gothic-studies-ma/staff.htm](http://www.stmarys.ac.uk/postgraduate-courses-london/gothic-studies-ma/staff.htm)



How to apply  
[www.stmarys.ac.uk/gothic](http://www.stmarys.ac.uk/gothic)

Course start  
September

Mode of study  
Full-time and part-time

Course length  
Full-time 1 year. Part-time 2 years



## Entry requirements

We usually require a good Bachelor's degree in literature, history, film and media studies, or any related discipline. In exceptional circumstances we may accept a student without such a qualification if he/she demonstrates an aptitude for this kind of study, usually through a written exercise.

