

**Curriculum Unit Title**

Crossing Gothic Boundaries: Using Horror to Unpack America's Racism

**Author**

Amanda Wlock

**KEY LEARNING, ENDURING UNDERSTANDING, ETC.**

Students will be able to understand the relationship of art and poetry via ekphrasis and connect that to the horror genre.

**ESSENTIAL QUESTION(S) for the UNIT**

How do I use an understanding of Gothic and Horror genres to delve into the history and current issues of racism in America?

**CONCEPT A**

Key Ideas and Details

**CONCEPT B**

Craft and Structure

**CONCEPT C**

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

**ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS A**

Determine two or more themes or central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to produce a complex account; provide an objective summary of the text. (RL 2)

Analyze the impact of the author's choices regarding how to develop and relate elements of a story or drama (e.g., where a story is set, how the action is ordered, how the characters are introduced and developed). (RL3)

Analyze a complex set of ideas or sequence of events and explain how specific individuals, ideas, or events interact and develop over the course of the text. (RL 3)

**ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS B**

Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze how an author uses and refines the meaning of a key term or terms over the course of a text. (RL 4)

Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including words with multiple meanings or language that is particularly fresh, engaging, or beautiful. (Include Shakespeare as well as other authors.) (RL 4)

**ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS C**

Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words in order to address a question or solve a problem. (RI 7)

Introduce a topic; organize complex ideas, concepts, and information so that each new element builds on that which precedes it to create a unified whole; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., figures, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension. (W 2A)

Develop the topic thoroughly by selecting the most significant and relevant facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic. (W 2B)