From Dracula to Twilight: the metamorphosis of vampires through changing times

Upon completion of the course, students will have a better idea of the changing societies and values reflected in the development of vampires throughout the last century.

Excellent English required

This is a Cultural Studies class (drawing from approaches in Literary and Media Studies). Students are welcome to prepare themselves mentally with:
- Rebecca Cordes: Anne Rice’s vampire Chronicles: Myth and History (Osnabrück 2004)

More will be provided at the beginning of the semester. Material will be provided by the instructor.

The seminar will be held weekly; there will be time for lecture, student presentation, in-class reading and discussion, group work, and film analysis. Students will be required to give one longer presentation and write a term paper.

80% attendance mandatory, credit earned through presentation and term paper (based on the presentation), and in-class work.

English

Nicholas Sinn

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A time long ago, vampires were once seen as monsters and feared by most. Then at some point in the last century, things began to change. Nowadays, vampires have literally come out of their shadow to become the poster boy decorating teenage girls’ rooms. What happened in between? Societies changed, so did our mentality, and all that was reflected in a series of metamorphosis of vampires that is most interesting to behold, some of them being:

- Vampires: Myth, legend and lore and their development
- The role of werewolves and other supernatural beings
- The role of women in vampire stories and emancipation
- Sexuality in vampire stories
- The role of religion
- Family values
- Vampires in other genres

These and other topics will form the backbone of this course.