

# ENGL 2530

## Horror as Social Commentary

### General Information

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**Instructor:** Mono Brown [mmbrown@langara.ca](mailto:mmbrown@langara.ca) (Office: A202a)

**Course Times:** Wednesdays, 6:30-9:50pm

**Credits:** 3 (for information about transfer credit, visit [bctransferguide.ca](http://bctransferguide.ca))

### Course Description

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As a genre, horror is known for depicting scenes of gratuitous violence that force audiences to confront their deepest insecurities and fears, from the primal to the societal. This course invites students to engage with the perspective that, far from baseless, horror's capacity to unsettle audiences makes it a powerful vehicle for challenging perspectives on a range of social issues. After being introduced both to the genre's conventions and to horror's history and longstanding reputation as social commentary, students will apply this knowledge to their study of contemporary, commentary-driven horror films, including *Jennifer's Body*, *The Babadook*, *Get Out*, and *Parasite*.

### Course Texts

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- Karyn Kusuma – *Jennifer's Body* (2009)
- Jennifer Kent – *The Babadook* (2014)
- Jordan Peele – *Get Out* (2017)
- Bong Joon-Ho – *Parasite* (2019)

**\*course texts are subject to change before the semester begins**