

102507 The Gothic
Short-Answer Task – *The Castle of Otranto* and *A Sicilian Romance*
Semester 1, 2019

Due Date: Monday 8th April, 2019 at 11.59 pm through Turnitin

Weighting: 30%

Word Limit: 900–1000 words (The word limit excludes primary source quotations, referencing and citation.)

Question

Answer the following question on Horace Walpole's *The Castle of Otranto* OR Ann Radcliffe's *A Sicilian Romance*. Your response should be presented as an essay.

In Gothic literature, the castle is commonly understood as a contested space. Consider how the castle in *The Castle of Otranto* OR *A Sicilian Romance* is a contested space with respect to one of the following pairings:

- rational and supernatural
- father and child
- past and present
- male and female

Guidelines

- Your response should demonstrate your understanding of the text and the themes of the unit. Direct engagement with the text is an expectation of this task. Your independent knowledge of the whole text should be apparent in your response.
- A high-quality response will be persuasive, critical–analytical, knowledgeable about the overall themes and ideas of the texts, and be able to demonstrate a good understanding of the text’s details.
- No secondary source research is required for this task, but may benefit your argument. Websites are banned for this assignment and should not be used as reference material.
- Work needs to be correctly and appropriately referenced, using the Chicago (footnotes) or MLA style. No other referencing styles are permissible in this unit, and marks will be deducted for use of other referencing styles.
- Your work must meet the Literacy Minimum Standard Level 2/3 in order to qualify for a passing grade.
- Please see the Marking Criteria in the Learning Guide for information about the marking scale.

Requests for Extension

Requests for extension must be made directly with the Unit Coordinator Dr Helen Basides by filling in a Request for Extension form, appending appropriate documentation and emailing these to the Unit Coordinator at H.Basides@westernsydney.edu.au as soon as practicable and within the timeframe allowed for extension requests.

As per the guidelines set out in the Learning Guide, students applying for an extension on or after the due date of the assignment must provide a draft of their assignments at the time of their request demonstrating a satisfactory level of progress. An inability to produce a draft showing a satisfactory level of progress with the assignment may affect the Unit Coordinator’s determination regarding any extension that may be given, and a request for extension may be rejected on these grounds.