

UofM English Graduate Student Conference 2025:

LEARNING FROM FEAR

2025 Talbot Roundtable & Conference Keynote

Friday, April 25th | 6:00pm | UC Theatre

Keynote Speakers

Dr. John Edgar Browning (Savannah College of Art and Design)

An internationally recognized authority on the horror genre, vampires, Bram Stoker, monster theory and monster pedagogy, Browning has published 20 academic and popular trade books on these topics as well as over 100 shorter works. [Click here to read Dr. Browning's full keynote abstract, "Profiling Dracula, Interrogating Ourselves".](#)

Dr. Stephanie A. Graves (Vanderbilt University)

Stephanie A. Graves is a film & media scholar, teacher, and reader. She researches rhetoric, gender & queer theory, pop culture, the Gothic and the Southern Gothic, horror, TV, and film. [Click here to read Dr. Graves's full keynote abstract, "Rhetorics of Fear: What Can We Learn from the Horrors in the Room?"](#)

Roundtable Participants

Ashton Alexander | PhD Student, Writing, Rhetoric, & Technical Communication

Ifeoluwa Awopetu | PhD Student, Applied Linguistics

Emily Gillo | PhD Candidate, Writing, Rhetoric, & Technical Communication

Korbyn Peebles | PhD Student, Writing, Rhetoric, & Technical Communication

co-sponsored by the [Marcus W. Orr Center for the Humanities](#)

[Click here to listen to the roundtable conversation](#)

2025 Graduate Student Conference: Learning from Fear

Saturday, April 26th | Patterson Hall

[Click here to read the full conference program](#) | [Click here to view the full conference itinerary](#) | [Click here to read presentation abstracts](#)

7:30-8:30am: Sign-in and breakfast

8:30-9:30am: [Fear & Pedagogy](#) (Hybrid)

9:45-10:45am: [Horrors of the Body](#) (Virtual)

11am-12pm: Is Rhetoric a Dying Discipline? Fear, Disciplinary Tensions, and the Future of Rhetorical Studies Roundtable

12pm-1pm: Lunch

1pm-2pm: Interactive exhibits & poster presentations

2:15-3:15pm: Representations of Horror in Media

2:15-3:15pm: [The Aesthetics of Fear](#) (Virtual)

3:30-4:30pm: Politics of Fear and "Otherness"