**Abstract:**

The topic of this thesis is architecture and settings of gothic horrors, particularly in films. The work explores the relationship between the genre of gothic horror and gothic architecture, mainly within examples of haunted castles. The aim of the work is to study in what way the haunted castles are depicted in films and how the gothic architecture is applied in their appearance.

The thesis is divided in two parts. The first one is an analysis of some of the gothic horror tendencies which have an influence on the image of haunted castles. These can be observed in films as well as in literature and theatre since the beginnings of gothic horror in the second half of the 18$^{th}$ century until today. The second part uses these tendencies to analyse images of haunted castles in films *Dracula* (John Badham, 1979), *Bram Stoker's Dracula* (Francis Ford Coppola, 1992) and *Van Helsing* (Stephen Sommers, 2004).