



MA1: Redefining the Monster

For SA1.1 you defined what the word “monster” meant for you. In MA1 you will return to that definition and apply it to our central text, *Frankenstein*. You will use your skills of rhetorical analysis (developed writing SA1.2), your skills of counterarguments and stakes (developed writing SA1.3), as well your knowledge of how to develop a complex claim and organize an essay (covered this week). For MA1 you will write a 5-7 page literary analysis paper that will explore this question: How does the creature **reinforce, alter** or **invalidate** your definition of a monster?

To do this you will

1. Review your reading journals and notes from in-class discussions to consider how the creature is portrayed by Frankenstein, how he portrays himself in his monologue and your own reactions to his development in the novel.
2. Return to your definition from SA1.1 and consider how your reading has affected that definition.
3. Narrow down the question and formulate a thesis that can be adequately addressed in a 5-7 page paper.
4. Structure your essay with a focus on developing minor claims that relate back to your thesis.
5. Make sure to address counterarguments to your thesis.
6. Make use of rhetorical analysis throughout your paper and integrated quotes to support and/or counter your claims.

Helpful tips:

- Focus your claim. Ways you can do this include but are not limited to: looking at a specific moment in the text, by considering one aspect of your definition, or by examining specific aspects of the creature throughout the whole novel. The more focused your claim is, the easier it will be to organize your paper.
- Make sure that each minor claim builds upon the one that came before and prepares for the next one. This will ensure that your paper progresses toward your conclusion.
- Don't forget to include stakes! They don't have to be reserved for your conclusion; stakes can be used throughout your essay as well.
- Be prepared for your conference and have a complete rough draft for peer review. Better feedback in those initial stages will produce a much better final paper.

Draft Due: 02/27/13

Final Due: 02/11/13

Outcomes Targeted: _____