



Course: UNIV 100 – Section H18 **Theme:** Culture & Literature

Course Topic: *Vampires, Ghosts, and Monsters*

Description: Everyone knows of Dracula, the Frankenstein Monster, the Loch Ness Monster, ghosts, and other things that go bump in the night, but what is it about these creatures that contribute to their continued relevance in society's collective consciousness? How is it that each generation seems to reinterpret Stoker's Dracula for something that speaks directly to them? What do ghosts tell us about our fears of the past invading the present? What does Frankenstein's monstrous nature say about society's own nature? Are these entities truly monstrous or just a reflection of our own inner selves? In this course, we will look at images of monsters from literature and film in order to understand why monsters continue to fascinate and speak to us. We will discuss and examine how the monstrous have been depicted, and what function they serve as a continued social metaphor.