

## A SHORT ACADEMIC PAPER ON MARY SHELLEY'S *FRANKENSTEIN*

**Assessment:** 40% the students' final grade if they are following 'modalidad presencial'.

**Learning Objectives:** The assignment is designed so that students

- formulate questions on a literary text from several critical approaches
- apply the critical concepts and methods of some of the approaches seen in class to a literary text in English,
- explain the critical approach(es) used in a given piece of literary criticism,
- write a stylistic commentary or 'practical criticism' essay
- write a well-structured essay using conventional academic English at B1 level,
- find reliable sources of information for their work,
- show the origins of the ideas employed in their writing by referencing their sources according to standard styles,
- organize the list of works cited in their essays using the format and conventions of standard referencing styles,
- apply the information and communication technologies used in class to their own work.

**Competencias específicas del Grado en Estudios Ingleses evaluadas en esta actividad:**

- CB3 Que los estudiantes tengan la capacidad de reunir e interpretar datos relevantes (normalmente dentro de su área de estudio) para emitir juicios que incluyan una reflexión sobre temas relevantes de índole social, científica o ética.
- CE2 Demostrar una competencia comunicativa y social en lengua inglesa (comprensión y expresión oral y escrita, interacción comunicativa y mediación, incluida la corrección gramatical y estilística).
- CE3 Desarrollar la capacidad crítica para explicar textos literarios en inglés e identificar las convenciones estéticas de movimientos, etapas, géneros, autores y obras de las literaturas en lengua inglesa y sus modos de producción.
- CE15 Conocer y aplicar las corrientes y metodologías de la teoría y crítica literarias.

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### INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE ASSIGNMENT

Write an **ESSAY** on a specific aspect of Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* that caught your attention. The essay must be between 700 and a 1000 words long (and should not exceed in any case a 1000 words, including the bibliographical references).

It must contain references to the primary source and at least 4 bibliographical references to secondary sources.

**PLAGIARISM IS A SERIOUS OFFENCE which goes against academic honesty. It will not be tolerated in this subject. Students caught plagiarizing will be subject to lowered or failing grades.**

Possible **topics of research** include, although they are not limited to:

- *Frankenstein's* echoes of romanticism.
- *Frankenstein's* reinterpretation of classic myth
- Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* and the Gothic tradition
- The narrative shifts and the role of the narrators in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*
- The portrayal and the critique of scientific research in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*
- The psychology of modern scientific man in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*
- Giving birth to a monster: The myth of birth and the anxieties of pregnancy and parenting
- Sublime geographic landscapes and inner space
- Mary Shelley's feminist critique of science
- Mary Shelley and the romantic notions of imagination
- 'The sleep of reason produces monsters': reason, dreams and their dark side.
- The Creature's Descendants: *Frankenstein's* legacy in popular culture/ cinematic culture/science fiction/ comics etc.
- *Frankenstein* in the twentieth/twenty-first century: contemporary reinterpretations
- Mary Shelley's 'hideous progeny' and the notions of Nature and Nurture
- The failure of parental education in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*