

Monstrous Ambition:

Project for Macbeth, Jekyll & Hyde, and Frankenstein

The last three works of literature share a common feature, unchecked ambition. I teach them as a unit to show how different authors in different time periods treat this same theme. To bring these three together, you are going to prepare a presentation that explores different aspects of these texts. Here are the requirements:

1. You will prepare a PowerPoint, Prezi, video or some similar presentation.
2. It must be at least **three** minutes in length, but no longer than **six** minutes in length.
3. Your presentation must have a **thesis** that directly responds to one of the prompts below.
4. Your presentation must address how your issue is handled in **all three** texts.
5. Your presentation must incorporate two **outside sources** that is not one of the three texts. It may be either:
 - **scholarly commentary** on one or more of the texts
 - **another literary work** that is somehow connected to these texts (consider many of the other works of literature you have studied with me over the last two years that explore some of the same themes)
6. Your presentation must incorporate engaging visuals (e.g. pictures, audio, or video) that are meaningful and relate to the material.
7. You must incorporate a **Biblical/Christian worldview** into your analysis.
8. You must submit an **MLA formatted works cited page** for all materials you used in your presentation.

Prompts for the Presentation

Directions: Please select **one** of the following prompts to address in your presentation.

1. All of the protagonists exist in the context of a society, with laws and cultural expectations. Does the society each in which each character exists push them toward their unchecked ambition (or fuel their ambition) or does it act as a barrier against that ambition?

2. All of the protagonists end fundamentally differently than they began. Is this evidence of a change in their fundamental nature or is this evidence that they possessed a dual nature, with the evil present all along?

3. In all three texts, there seems to be an element of the supernatural (ghosts, witches, monsters, omens) hovering around the activities of the protagonists. What kind of influence does the supernatural exert on the characters and plot of the novel?

4. In all three texts, there are characters who serve as cautionary figures for the protagonists. These characters attempt to stop the protagonists before they come to (or cause) harm. Identify them in each text and analyze their effectiveness in each case.

Due Dates

Your selection of a prompt and your thesis statement must be submitted to Turn It In. com by:

Your presentations will begin: _____

The order of your presentations will be determined by lottery. You will need to submit your list of works cited to Turn It In. com by: _____