

Huron Brief Course Outlines

Fall/Winter 2023-2024

Course Title: Monsters: A Human History

Course Number and Section

HISTORY

1819F 550

Instructor Name(s): Nina Reid-Maroney

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Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

Course Description:

This course offers a hands-on introduction to the study and the practice of History, using the idea of monsters and concepts of the monstrous as our unifying theme, and taking in a range of selected topics across time and place. Using primary sources drawn from a range of global histories and political contexts, the course examines shifting ideas of “the monstrous” and asks what the monstrous reveals about concepts of nature, gender, race, reason, spectacle, belief, power, modernity, and ultimately, what makes us human.

Using workshops with archival, print, and digital sources, secondary readings, lectures, and class discussion, the course will introduce you to the practice of history—the ways that historians interpret evidence and make sense of the past.

Learning Outcomes:

Recognize and define major themes in recent historical scholarship.

Develop research skills using the library, archives, and digital repositories.

Read and analyse primary sources in ways that recognize both their value, and their limitations.

Write clearly using your own ideas and words.

Understand the concept of historiography and recognize interpretive debates across a range of topics covered in the course.

Voice your own critical views, both in class discussion and in written work.

Textbooks and Course Materials:

Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein, or the Modern Prometheus* ed. M.K. Joseph. This book is available for purchase at the Western Bookstore—you will need the introductory material in this edition of the text. All other required readings are posted on our course OWL site.

Methods of Evaluation:

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Discussion and reading response worksheets	In class	20

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
History Workshops	In class	10
Research proposal	10/27/23	10
Primary Source Research Essay	12/01/2023	25
Reflection	12/04/23	5
Final Exam	TBA	30

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.