

The purpose of this paper is to analyze, synthesize, and discuss the perspectives, viewpoints, and ideas discussed during the week in the course materials and lectures. In this way, we will engage in historical / cultural analysis, make cross-cultural comparisons and connections, and further develop writing skills.

Response #2 Topics (Choose ONE; be sure to clearly identify which topic you chose in your paper somewhere)

The minimum word-count for this assignment is **350-words**.

1. Discuss the literary vampire from its origins in Polidori's "The Vampyre" to its popular and enduring incarnation in Stoker's "Dracula." In what ways are the vampires in these stories different from the folkloric vampire? How are they similar? What similar themes do you notice regarding the interaction between the female and male characters with the powerful vampire antagonist?
2. The character of Dracula embodies many themes, but one of these is certainly fear of the cultural and ethnic "other." How is this theme presented in the films "Blade" and "Blackula"? In what ways are the stories of these modern vampires similar and different to that of Count Dracula? What similarities can be drawn between the cultural significance of these films in American culture to that of *Dracula* for a 20th-century English audience?

Paper Guidelines

Ideally, you will structure your paper as follows.

1. A clear statement of your main idea or thesis on the subject.
2. Connections between the topic and the course material (readings and class discussions)
3. A brief summation and a final statement that represents the key take-away / idea from your paper.

You may deviate from this structure, but the majority of the paper should be given to drawing your own connections between the course materials. You do not have a lot of space, so be sure to get straight to the point and not worry about making a lengthy introduction or conclusion.

You should consider the course materials both individually and collectively. Consider the any key claims or arguments from the materials, the strengths and weaknesses of authors' arguments, possible counterarguments, how the texts relate to one another (do they agree or disagree?, formulate the problem in different ways?, strengthen or weaken each other's argument?), and why the problem(s) or argument(s) are interesting or important.

You should NOT summarize the texts or worry about re-telling ideas or a plot (if discussing a narrative); assume the reader is familiar with the texts referenced. No more than 50 words may be devoted to plot synopsis. You need to react and respond to the materials, making connections which will lead to analysis. Any personal opinions included in the essay should be based on thoughtful analysis of the topic and materials themselves.

Criteria for Formatting & Submission

Your scene analysis should:

- Be typed, double-spaced, with no changes to the margins
 - Be in Calibri 11 or Times New Roman 12 font
 - Be spell- and grammar-checked
 - Include your name, but do not put your student ID number on the paper.
 - Include the following information in the upper-left of your paper:
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- Include a title that connects in a meaningful way with your essay
 - You do not need to include additional outside references beyond the course materials in your essay; if you do include them, you should cite them in MLA or APA format (your choice, just be consistent) in a bibliography, which does not count towards the 350-word requirement.
 - Quotes should be kept to a minimum so you can focus on analyzing and connecting ideas. No citation is necessary unless you are including a work not read for the course (see the point above).