

## AP Literature Summer Reading List 2014 – Ms. Scott

### Required Books:

How to Read Literature Like a Professor: A Lively and Entertaining Guide to Reading Between the Lines - Thomas C. Foster ISBN: 978-0062301673 (Google the title to find a free pdf of an earlier version online.)

Frankenstein – Mary Shelley. ISBN: 978-1-59308-115-7 (this ISBN reflects the Barnes and Noble Classics edition, but any edition of the same text is acceptable.)

### Assignments:

Every student will read Frankenstein by Mary Shelley and How to Read Literature Like a Professor by Thomas Foster. Foster's book will help you to better understand the novels we will read. It will also give us a working vocabulary of literature criticism that we can use going forward.

1. Before you read Frankenstein: Read Chapter 21 from Foster's book. Pay close attention to what he says about Frankenstein.
2. After you read Frankenstein: Apply the following chapters from Foster's book to Frankenstein. (Explained in point 'A' below)

Chapter 1—"Every Trip Is a Quest"

Chapter 7—"...or The Bible" (Chapter 6 in Revised Edition)

Chapter 9—"It's Greek to Me" (think Prometheus) (Chapter 8 in RE)

Chapter 10—"It's More Than Just Rain or Snow" (Chapter 9 in RE)

Chapter 11—"...More Than It's Gonna Hurt You: Concerning Violence"

Chapter 12—"Is That a Symbol?"

Chapter 19—"Geography Matters..."

Chapter 20—"...So Does Season"

Chapter 25—"Don't Read with Your Eyes" (Chapter 24 in RE)

- A. Respond to each chapter by writing a well-developed paragraph that explains the main points Foster is making and show how they apply to Frankenstein (150 word minimum). Include *at least two* specific textual examples (at least one of which is a direct quote from the novel) that show how Mary Shelley is using the technique or idea discussed in Foster's chapter. Use MLA parenthetical citation to indicate where in the novel you found your examples. Not sure what MLA parenthetical citation is? Google it. Look for pages by OWL (<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/>).
- B. Respond to the following AP Literature prompt (2003):

**According to critic Northrop Frye, "Tragic heroes are so much the highest points in their human landscape that they seem the inevitable conductors of the power about them, great trees more likely to be struck by lightning than a clump of grass. Conductors may of course be instruments as well as victims of the divine lightning." Select a novel or play in which a tragic figure functions as an instrument of the suffering of others. Then write an essay in which you explain how the suffering brought upon others by that figure contributes to the tragic vision of the work as a whole.**

This is an example of the type of essay writing you will be required to do within strict time constraints for the AP Literature test.

Both assignments are DUE the first week of school. Oh, and expect these to be taught and quizzed!