

Coming, Fall 2019...

# VICTORIAN MONSTERS



## EN 8543: STUDIES IN ENGLISH LITERATURE, 1832-1900

Dr. Shalyn Claggett

Tuesdays 5:00-7:50

**Studied texts will include (more to be added):**

James Malcolm Rhymer, *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* (ISBN#: 978-0199543441)

Robert Louis Stevenson, *The Strange Case of Dr. Jeckyll and Mr. Hyde* (978-1554810246)

Bram Stoker, *Dracula* (ISBN#: 978-0-393-97012-8)

H.G. Wells, *The Island of Dr. Moreau* (ISBN #: 9780141441023)

Charles Dickens, *The Old Curiosity Shop* (ISBN#: 978-0199538232)

H. Rider Haggard, *She* (ISBN#: 978-0199536429)

This class aims to examine both real and supernatural monsters within the context of emergent scientific, technological, and psychiatric thought in Victorian Britain. Our study will entail a careful examination of work by Victorian writers who penned narratives about insanity, drug addiction, doppelgängers, vampires, and murderers. By examining Victorian literature in its historical context, this course aims at better understanding how these writers exploited and directed the public's macabre fascination with the darkest side of human (and inhuman) nature.

**Course Requirements:**

Two exams, a state-of-the-field project, weekly 1-page reflections, class presentation, and a 15-page researched essay.