Overview of the Essay

As we will discuss, visual representations of monsters fascinate us and keep us coming back for more. This essay will ask you to look at a “monster” film of your choice and argue not only for its inclusion as an iconic film in the monster canon but also as a film that makes the viewer critically think about the film’s contents. For instance, the film Alien, featuring Sigourney Weaver, is an iconic “monster” film because it challenges the perceptions of gender and big business through its creature, the xenomorph. You will analyze your film and its ideas, as well as its monster, and think about how the film “has expanded and deepened your thinking about its ideas” (Ramage et al 106).

This also means that you should not choose just any monster movie that comes to mind, nor your favorite scary film. You want to choose a film that makes you think and that offers a visionary effort at monster culture. There is a list of films in your book that might be worth taking a look at on page 245. No matter the film you choose, you do want to make sure that you are not summarizing the film, but rather wallowing in the ideas that the film contains. Relate how those themes and such are wrapped up in the idea of the monster that your film contains.

Assignment Criteria

I will be assessing your essays on the following:

- How well you are able to analyze your film and monster.
- How clearly and effectively your essay is written.
- How well you quote and document your sources.

See rubric for full disclosure on essay criteria.

Requirements and Due Dates

- Your essay should be 3-4 pages in length.
- Your essay should have at least 2 secondary sources.
- You will need to follow MLA format for the style: 1-inch margins, proper four-line heading, proper pagination, double-spaced, and 12 pt. Times New Roman font. As well as follow the proper format for your research using the 8th edition of the MLA book.
- Your full draft is due on [date] during your instructor workshop time. Sign up using Doodle via the link provided on Blackboard.
- You should submit your essay on Blackboard by the beginning of class on [date].