

# **Summer Reading Assignment: ENC1101, Fall 2025**

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Your summer reading involves one text: You may choose *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley or *The Awakening* by Kate Chopin.



## **To be successful with this assignment:**

- You must obtain a copy of your selected text and read the full novel.
- You must also have access to the internet.
- All sources used should be reliable and credible sources. Sources from **unreliable sources** such as *Wikipedia*, *Sparknotes*, *Shmoop*, etc. **will cause you to lose points on this assignment.** Sources from universities (.edu) are generally reliable sources.
- Strong and clear writing skills are an expectation with this assignment.

**Objective:** Students will be able to develop an analytical essay supplemented with research documents. Students will also be able to display their knowledge of the MLA 8 format, as shown in the MLA handbook (8<sup>th</sup> ed.) and on the Purdue OWL website: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

**Due Date:** At the end of the first week of classes to Canvas at TCC, where it will be scanned through Turnitin.com

**Word Count:** 1400 words, minimum; you must include a word count at the end of your essay

**Format:** Your essay MUST be in the MLA 8 format. Visit the Purdue OWL website for examples of this. To score well, it is helpful to include subheadings for each of the five sections.

**Your Task:** "Research and Analysis Essay"

**Part I:** Define the Appeals; using Dictionary.com or another source (Not just your own super-intelligent brain), define Ethos, Logos, and Pathos. You must cite your source in the MLA 8 format. (Minimum of 200 words)

**Part II:** Historical Context; research the historical context of your novel, as in, look at the author's life and consider what may have influenced them to write this text. It would be helpful to locate a biography in this case. Again, you must cite your source in the MLA 8 format. (Minimum of 500 words)

**Part III:** Analysis; identify at least one significant scene for each that you interpret to best portray Ethos, Logos, and Pathos. Three scenes total for each Appeal. If you struggle finding an example, you may also find non-examples, however, you must then thoroughly explain why these examples do not portray the definitions of Ethos, Logos, and Pathos. Quoting the text will require in-text citation or lead-ins, visit the Purdue OWL for help with this process. (Minimum of 500 words)

**Part IV:** Reflection; how did you feel about this research process? What were your strengths and weaknesses? What did you learn from your previous instructor that you feel helped to prepare you for this assignment? (Minimum of 200 words)

**Part V:** Works Cited; you should have a minimum of THREE sources: your book, your definitions from Part I and the history information from Part II. You must cite all of these on one page, separate from the rest of your essay. If you used additional sources, you must include them on this page. "When in doubt, cite it anyway".

**NOTE:** If you improperly cite or do not cite your sources, you will have committed plagiarism. TurnItIn.com will scan your essay and tell your instructor EXACTLY where each piece of information originated. Please use the Purdue OWL to ensure that you have successfully completed the MLA requirements. Ignorance is not an acceptable excuse.

## Brief Overview of the Texts: Choose ONE.

### *Frankenstein* - Mary Shelley

At once a Gothic thriller, a passionate romance, and a cautionary tale about the dangers of science, *Frankenstein* tells the story of committed science student Victor Frankenstein. Obsessed with discovering the cause of generation and life and bestowing animation upon lifeless matter, Frankenstein assembles a human being from stolen body parts but; upon bringing it to life, he recoils in horror at the creature's hideousness. Tormented by isolation and loneliness, the once-innocent creature turns to evil and unleashes a campaign of murderous revenge against his creator, Frankenstein. *Frankenstein* raises profound, disturbing questions about the very nature of life and the place of humankind within the cosmos: What does it mean to be human? What responsibilities do we have to each other? How far can we go in tampering with Nature? In our age, filled with news of organ donation genetic engineering, and bio-terrorism, these questions are more relevant than ever.

<b>Positive Messages</b>	While many mistakes are made by the main characters, the moral messages are
<b>Positive Role Models</b>	Victor's friends and teachers are all very conscientious and kind; Victor's mistakes are clearly painted as such.
<b>Violence</b>	Murder, digging up dead bodies, risky experimentation.
<b>Sex</b>	The importance of companionship is underscored; a "wedding night" is an important moment for a character.
<b>Language</b>	N/A
<b>Consumerism</b>	N/A
<b>Drinking, Drugs, Smoking</b>	Victor mentions taking laudanum

### *The Awakening* – Kate Chopin

*The Awakening* is a novel about a search for self. Edna Pontellier is a married woman in the 19<sup>th</sup> century who longs for a life outside of being a wife and a mother. The story is set in the richly diverse southern Louisiana coast. It explores issues of personal choice, freedom, and societal expectations and limitations.

<b>Positive Messages</b>	It is important to search for personal fulfillment.
<b>Positive Role Models</b>	The characters in this novel are each trying to be their best selves, though many missteps are made along the way. The book does not endorse those missteps, but rather presents them for the purpose of exploring societal problems.
<b>Violence</b>	Suicide
<b>Sex</b>	Implied, embracing and kissing
<b>Language</b>	N/A
<b>Consumerism</b>	Characters are often based on their clothes, appearances, race, ethnicity, and social class
<b>Drinking, Drugs, Smoking</b>	Drinking

Per School Board Policy 2240, Leon County Schools recognizes that certain instructional materials may conflict with a student's or parent's value system. In such cases, a parent may request in writing an alternative summer reading assignment. **Please direct inquiries to Mr. Herrera, [herreraj@leonschools.net](mailto:herreraj@leonschools.net)**