WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?
Funded by a Challenge Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the MWCC Humanities Project strengthens the college's humanities curriculum; supports collaborative and interdisciplinary teaching and research in the humanities; examines the intersection between the humanities and other academic disciplines; and engages MWCC and the community in the discussion of enduring themes from the world’s many cultures and traditions.

MYTHS, MONSTERS, AND MODERN SCIENCE: FRANKENSTEIN'S LEGACY
Like all great works of science fiction, Mary Shelley’s Frankenstein explores what it means to be human. Published nearly 200 years ago, Frankenstein continues to raise important questions: Can science go too far? How do we tolerate difference? Who are the real monsters? Our world is witnessing rapid scientific and technological advances. How do works of the imagination help society cope with these changes? Other themes explored in the novel include nature vs. nurture, the effects of abandonment on children, beauty, good and evil, the limits and responsibilities of science, rationality vs. intuition, faith vs. reason, and, most of all, the power of a good story to invade our imagination and transform how we see ourselves and our world.

FREE EVENTS Open to the general public

SEPTEMBER 2015
24 Book Discussion: Frankenstein
6:30-8pm, MWCC Library, Gardner

OCTOBER 2015
14 Panel Discussion: “Frankenscience? – The Myths & Realities of Contemporary Science” with MWCC faculty Lara Dowland, Carrie Arnold, Tom Montagno & Heather Conn
6:30-8pm, Levi Heywood Memorial Library, Gardner

20 Lecture: “Monsters on the Big Screen” with Fitchburg State University Professor Joe Moser
12:30-1:30pm, MWCC North Cafeteria, Gardner

31 Fundraiser: Halloween Hike for the Humanities
10am, Wachusett Mountain, Princeton

NOVEMBER 2015
05 Film Screening: Kenneth Branagh’s Mary Shelley’s Frankenstein
12:30-2:30pm, MWCC North Cafeteria, Gardner

12 Lecture: “Mary Shelley: The Woman Behind the Monster” with Tufts University Professor Sonia Hofkosh
6:30-8pm, Leominster Public Library

18 Brown Bag Lunch Discussion: What Makes a Monster?
12:30-1:30pm, MWCC RM 345, Gardner

FEBRUARY 2016
17 Lecture: “Historical Perspectives on Frankenstein” with Mount Holyoke College Professor Robert Schwartz
12:30-1:30pm, MWCC North Cafeteria, Gardner

25 Author Talk: Elizabeth Young, author of Black Frankenstein:
The Making of an American Metaphor
-- From Choice: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries
6:30-8pm, Fitchburg Art Museum

MARCH 2016
05 Monster Movie Marathon: James Whale’s 1931 classic Frankenstein and Kenneth Branagh’s Mary Shelley’s Frankenstein – Two Films, Lunch, and a Lecture by Fitchburg State University Professor Joe Moser
11am–5pm, Leominster Public Library

24 Lecture: “Girls and Their Ghost Stories: Feminism, Philosophy, and Frankenstein” with MWCC Faculty/Staff Dan Soucy and Shelley Errington Nicholson
6–8:30pm, Athol Public Library

APRIL 2016
05 Film Screening: Mel Brooks’ Young Frankenstein
12:30-2:30pm, MWCC North Cafeteria, Gardner

27 Student Presentations
12:30-2:30pm, MWCC North Cafeteria, Gardner

For more information visit mwcc.edu/humanitiesproject

THE HUMANITIES PROJECT
A World of Ideas in Your Community