

## WHS Book Rationale

**Title:** *Frankenstein*

**Author:** Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

- **Intended Audience**
  - English 9 Honors/ English 9
- **Brief summary and educational significance**
  - Set in 1790s Europe, epistolary novel explores Victor Frankenstein and his quest to create life and the problems that result when he attempts to become a creator.
  - One of the finest pieces of Romantic and Gothic literature to be found. A first for women in literature of the 1800s.
- **Purpose of teaching the work and how it will be used**
  - Romanticism, gothic literature, science, role of science and spirituality in society, consequences of one's actions, motifs, symbolism, allusion, medical/scientific research ethics.
- **Potential problems**
  - The idea of science vs. religion, a man becoming a creator. Murder. Step-sister/brother relationship. Knowing the limits of human knowledge.
- **Addressing potential problems**
  - Allows opportunities to discuss the incursion of technology on the human self.
  - Allows discussion of consequences of one's actions and taking responsibility for those actions.