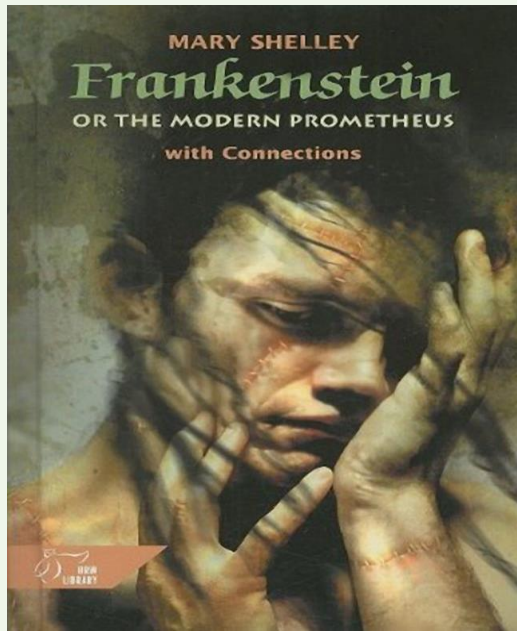


**The Bill and Carol Fox Center  
for Humanistic Inquiry  
Emory University  
2017-2018 Great Works Seminar**



***FRANKENSTEIN; or THE MODERN PROMETHEUS***  
(begins October 9, 2017)

Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein; or The Modern Prometheus* was first published in 1818. It has been in print ever since. The novel began life as a short story written in 1816 when Shelley was only 18 years of age. *Frankenstein* has all the elements of a Gothic novel, but it is much more. Interpreters consider it a progenitor of science fiction, a horror story, and a philosophical rumination on the nature of our humanity. "Frankenstein" has become a cultural icon, describing everything from breakfast cereal (Frankenberry) to the political villain of the month. The novel has been adapted for the theatre, adapted for dozens of films (from Abbot and Costello through Boris Karloff to the Mel Brooks classic, *Young Frankenstein*) and appears in other arts as well. Interestingly, it is the Creature (never named in the novel), not its creator who has become this cultural phenomenon for the Creature is at once both a reflection of our best and worse traits. Today, as we enter into a new world of genetic engineering, robotics, and nano-technological implants, the questions that Mary Shelley's novel raised are as pertinent as ever. Reading Shelley's work together we will have the chance to reflect on questions of human nature, "playing God," the nature of monstrous, and our ethical responsibility to generations who will inherit our understandings of these questions.

The seminar will be moderated by Steven Kraftchick, Professor at the Candler School of Theology and the Graduate Division of Religion at Emory University, and will meet from **7pm to 9pm** at the Fox Center for **four consecutive Monday evening** sessions during the **2017 fall semester: Oct 9, 16, 23 & 30**. Everyone from the Atlanta community is welcome and invited to join us for this free seminar. For further information or to reserve seating on a "first-come basis," please email the Fox Center at [foxcenter@emory.edu](mailto:foxcenter@emory.edu), or call 404.727.6424.

We are grateful to the National Endowment for the Humanities for its support of this program. Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in these seminars do not necessarily reflect those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.