RESOURCES for *Frankenstein; or, the Modern Prometheus*

ON LINE EDITIONS (Annotated)

Romantic Circles: Scholarly website devoted to the study of Romantic period literature. The section on *Frankenstein* contains annotated editions (1818 and 1831) as well as substantial other information.
https://romantic-circles.org/editions/frankenstein/editions.2009.frankenstein.1818.html

The Pennsylvania Electronic Edition: University of Pennsylvania's website on *Frankenstein* also contains both editions of the text in addition to critical commentaries and additional information.
https://knarf.english.upenn.edu

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

The Poetry Foundation: Mary Wollstonecaft Shelley
https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/mary-wollstonecraft-shelley

The Poetry Foundation: "Lightning Strikes Twice: The Shelleys Two Hundred Years after their Masterpieces"
https://www.poetryfoundation.org/articles/145504/lightning-strikes-twice

SCIENCE of Her Time (simplified)

Science Museum (London) "The Science Behind Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein"*
https://blog.sciencemuseum.org.uk/the-science-behind-mary-shelleys-frankenstein/

MAGAZINE ARTICLES (PDF downloads on class site)

The New Yorker, "The Strange and Twisted Life of *Frankenstein,*" by Jill Lepore, Feb. 5, 2018

The New York Review of Books, "Mary Shelley's 'Hideous Progeny,'" by Miranda Seymour, Nov. 20, 2025

ESSAYS (Optional)

Bugg, John, "Master of Their Language…" Education and Exile in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein,"* *Huntington Library Quarterly,* Vol.68, No. 4, 2006 (PDF on class site)

Mellor, Anne, "Frankenstein, Gender, and Mother Nature," from Shelley, Mary. *Frankenstein*:
Annotated for Scientists, Engineers, and Creators of All Kinds (pp. 344-352). Kindle Edition (PDF on class site)

VIDEO LECTURES

Anne Mellors lecture on "Mothering Monsters".

Mellor specializes in Romantic literature, British cultural history, feminist theory, philosophy, art history and sexuality studies. She is most known for a series of essays and books that introduced forgotten women Romantic writers into literary history and she edited the first volume of feminist essays on Romantic writers in 1988, entitled Romanticism and Feminism. Her most important books on women and Romanticism include Mothers of the Nation: Women's Political Writing in England, 1780-1830 (2000), Mary Shelley: Her Fiction, Her Life, Her Monsters (1988), and Romanticism and Gender (1993).

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rd-eKRRQzcQ

“Romantic Outlaws: The Extraordinary Lives of Mary Wollstonecraft and Mary Shelley”

Award-winning author Charlotte Gordon discussed her biography of Mary Shelley and her mother, Mary Wollstonecraft, entitled "Romantic Outlaws: The Extraordinary Lives of Mary Wollstonecraft and Mary Shelley." She then has a conversation with Washington Post columnist Michael Dirda, who Gordon authored the introduction to the anniversary re-issue of Mary Shelley's "Frankenstein.”

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7WJdOM2kgDs

BICENTENNIAL EXHIBITION

Pierpont Morgan Bicentennial Exhibit: It’s Alive! Frankenstein at 200. (Oct 2018-Jan.2019)
https://www.themorgan.org/exhibitions/frankenstein

A great source of background information on Mary Shelley, the text and its creation, the arts and science of the time, visuals from the 200 years of its publication and imitation. Included is a digitized 1818 edition of the text annotated by Shelley herself, given as a gift to a friend.