**Essay on Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein***

**Topics (all topics can be related to AI, but students are not required to make such connections in this essay.)**

**Monstrosity**: What makes the creature monstrous? What does his monstrosity have to do with his creator, the culture he is born in/out of, norms and cultural constructions, Othering and Alterity, the Shadow? (References to Jeffrey Jerome Cohen’s “Seven theses” in *Monster Theo*ry are encouraged.)

**Knowledge:** Look at how learning and knowledge are portrayed in the text, in Victor’s and the creature’s (and Walton’s) stories. What does the pursuit of knowledge lead to in each of their cases? What might Shelley be trying to communicate about knowledge?

**The Double**: Look at how Victor and the creature are mirrored and doubled in the text. What can we infer from this doubling? (For this topic you can look at Freud on the Uncanny, Jung on the Shadow, Racialization or Queer theory, Monster theory, etc.)

**God and Adam/Lucifer:** Pay close attention to the roles of Victor and the Creature, and how they do or do not conform to an analogy to God and Adam or God and Lucifer. How is this analogy (accurate or not) a way for Shelley to explore an Ethics of Creativity? How does it relate to scientific/technological exploration?