Menu

• Quiz return
• Sample questions (handout)
• Friday: Exam begins @ 10:45
• *Dracula*, the novel—wrap-up
• Screening: *Dracula* (1931; clip)
• Screening: *Dracula* (1958)
Dracula, Borders

- East/West—barbarity-civilization
- Borders of home, mind, body
- Psychological/physiological border states
  - Madness
  - Dream/Sleepwalking
  - Trance/illness
  - Hypnosis
- Mobility, penetration, transgression, violation
- Uncrossable boundaries:
  - day/night (inconsistent in the novel)
  - running water
  - threshold (without invitation)
Dracula, Evolutionary Motifs

- Drac’s power over animals (also over forces of nature)
- Animal features: hairiness, wolfish eyes, pointed ears
- Drac compared to lizard, “filthy leech,” beast
- Transforms into a dog, bat
- Unusual, inhuman strength
- The vampire: highest of all bloodsucking creatures (Renfield’s evolutionary chain)
- Primitive mind (“child’s brain”)
- Drac’s power over “primitive” peoples: Gypsies, Slovaks
Dracula, Male Games

• Cream of Western civilization vs. a descendant of primitive, “savage” warriors
• Crusaders of the Light on a mission
• Binded by blood donorship. Bond over a victimized female body.
• Displaced sexual energy finds outlet in homoerotic friendship
• Drac is the seductive, potent stranger threatening to take possession of “their” women
• Van Helsing: mentor, master, possessing secret knowledge. Others—his disciples, being introduced (seduced) into a mystery.
Dracula, Women

- When not vamped, women are men’s best friends, pretty decorations, boosters of male egos
- As vamps they are, simultaneously, seductive and terrifying (repulsive)
- Vampirization=Sexualization?
- Mina vs. Lucy
- Lucy’s body as a battlefield for male potency
- Lucy’s transformation
  - angelic blonde⇒demonic dark-haired seductress
  - potential mother⇒child-molester
- The staking of Lucy: act of phallic vengeance
- The vamping of Mina: fall & repentance