**Blog Post #4** due Tuesday 11/14: Groups A & B (NO comments due next week)

For Tuesday, I want EVERYONE to write a one page (about 250-400 words) post on one of the following topics:

1. Science and Pseudoscience in *Dracula* or Christina Rossetti’s poems

We talked about the spiritualist debates in 19th century England as well as looked at moment in the text where science is set up against something that “you cannot understand” (204). In your post make an argument about *why* this debate figured so centrally to our novel.

Helpful Resources mentioned in class:

* Victorian Spiritualism: <http://www.victorianweb.org/victorian/religion/spirit.html>
* Science or Séance?: Late Victorian Science and *Dracula’s* Epistolary Structure: <http://www.victorianweb.org/authors/stoker/scarborough1.html>
* Gothic Motifs: <http://www.bl.uk/romantics-and-victorians/articles/gothic-motifs>

1. Sexuality in *Dracula* or Christina Rossetti’s poems

There are multiple moments of sexually charge language in each of our texts. Pick one and explore *why* you think sexuality figures so centrally in our novel.

* Dracula: Vampires, Perversity, and Victorian Anxieties: <http://www.bl.uk/romantics-and-victorians/articles/dracula>
* Daughters of decadence: the New Woman in the Victorian fin de siècle: <http://www.bl.uk/romantics-and-victorians/articles/daughters-of-decadence-the-new-woman-in-the-victorian-fin-de-siecle#sthash.lKmgbyPc.dpuf>
* "Kiss Me with those Red Lips": Gender and Inversion in Bram Stoker's Dracula” by Christopher Craft: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2928560?seq=1#page_scan_tab_contents> (accessible on campus)
* Christina Rossetti: gender and power: <https://www.bl.uk/romantics-and-victorians/articles/christina-rossetti-gender-and-power>

1. Colonialization and “othered” bodies in *Dracula* or Christina Rossetti’s poems

Specifically Dracula and the goblin men of Christina Rossetti’s poem come from “other lands.” Think about why these texts are so fixated on monstrous bodies (that come from other lands!) and make a claim about *why* they figure so heavily in our texts. Helpful resources:

* Gothic fiction in the Victorian fin de siècle: mutating bodies and disturbed minds: <https://www.bl.uk/romantics-and-victorians/articles/gothic-fiction-in-the-victorian-fin-de-siecle>
* Exoticism in 19th-century literature: <https://www.bl.uk/romantics-and-victorians/articles/exoticism-in-19th-century-literature>
* An introduction to ‘Goblin Market’: <https://www.bl.uk/romantics-and-victorians/articles/an-introduction-to-goblin-market>

Feel free to include links, images, or video in you post—in other words, make use of our blog capabilities!

**Blog Post #5** due Tuesday 11/21: Making a claim about poetry or The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde

For this final post, I want you to do one of three things.

1. Compose a close reading of one of our poems or a moment from our short novel where you make explicit what the text is implicitly saying.
2. Put the ideas from one of our poems or short novel in conversation with another text from class to notice similarity within difference or difference within similarity.
3. Put a poem or our short novel in conversation with something of your choice (from outside class). Notice similarity within difference or difference within similarity.

Feel free to include links, images, or video in you post—in other words, make use of our blog capabilities!

**Length:** 250-400 words (one-two pages in MS Word)