

Call for Papers

Monster Fest 2025

Saint Mary's University
Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

October 28-31, 2025

The Department of the Study of Religion and the Women and Gender Studies Programs at Saint Mary's University are holding their first Monster Fest! We invite proposals for 20-minute papers/presentations addressing any aspect of monsters and monstrosity, with a particular focus on religion and monstrosity; gender, sexuality, and monstrosity; monster theory; monstrous bodies, and analyses of contemporary horror. Papers from all disciplines and lenses are welcome.

Our festival is inspired by and in partnership with the [Center for Monster Studies](#)' Festival at the University of California Santa Cruz. In response to the political climate in the United States, faculty and students intending to present at the Festival of Monsters are foregoing travel and working to create our own festival here in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.

Monster Fest will include many monstrous events, such as film screenings, an academic conference, a "grotesque" themed art installation, and a monster building workshop. It culminates in a horrific monster (costume) ball.

Presentation proposals up to 250 words and a biography of 50 words can be submitted through our [submission link](#). As we are responding to events in real time, we understand that our call for papers comes late in the season. We will accept proposals until August 31, 2025.

Queries about the conference can be directed to the organizing committee: michele.byers@smu.ca; ashley.mackinnon@smu.ca, and / or lindsay.macumber@smu.ca

Join us...if you dare!

