

## NCUR Application

Name of Student: Kaylee Lamb

Class: Junior

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Department/Major:  
English

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Attach File: <http://>

Title of Presentation:

Lack of Enlightenment:Gothic Heroines Characterization in a Patriarchal Society

BHSU IRB, IACUC or Biosafety #:

NA

Abstract:

During the Age of the Enlightenment, European intellectuals began to reevaluate their beliefs about nature, science, religion, and freedom. The late-seventeenth century witnessed the disintegration of medieval, political, and social orders while witnessing the growth of social clubs, literature, and salons. During this period, both men and women found a new voice about the nature of humanity. While social clubs and salons offered men a public setting to share their ideas, literature provided female authors and readers an intellectual setting to contest their social, economic, and political positions. While some literary genres, allowed women to challenge patriarchy and escape their prescribed domestic sphere, eighteenth-century gothic literature failed to challenge established gender norms. Within the gothic novel, the heroine finds herself the victim of the tyrannical male and her only means of escape is often death. In their representations of women, gothic novels, supported and promoted patriarchal norms. By using the novels of The Castle of Otranto by Horace Walpole, The Mysteries of Udolpho by Anne Radcliffe, and The Monk by Matthew Lewis, I intend to argue that these novels indirectly promote the concept of patriarchy, while also serving as an intellectual setting to address women's oppression.

I certify that: My project is at or near completion and the abstract accurately represents my findings:

Yes

Statement of Student Responsibilities:

If my project is accepted for NCUR and I receive funding, I agree to:

- complete my project before departure
- make a trial presentation to my faculty advisor before departure
- present my paper/project at NCUR and attend other sessions
- all required IRB, IACUC and Biosafety approvals have been received
- give presentation at Black Hills Research Symposium (BHRS)
- Represent BHSU in a professional & responsible manner