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English 102: Inquiry into the Vampire

Long before Edward Cullen made every teenage girl with a pulse long for a vampire without one, the vampire signified a much darker set of human emotions. The vampire figure intersects with a broad scope of disciplines – literature, history, psychology, religion, cultural studies, and more, and our goal in this course will be to establish preliminary investigations of why this popular icon stays alive (and yet, undead!). We will peruse the vampire's manifestations through different media and contexts, touching upon the conventional conception of the historical monstrous figure to the most modern, dashing, and chaste teen-heart-throbbing representation.