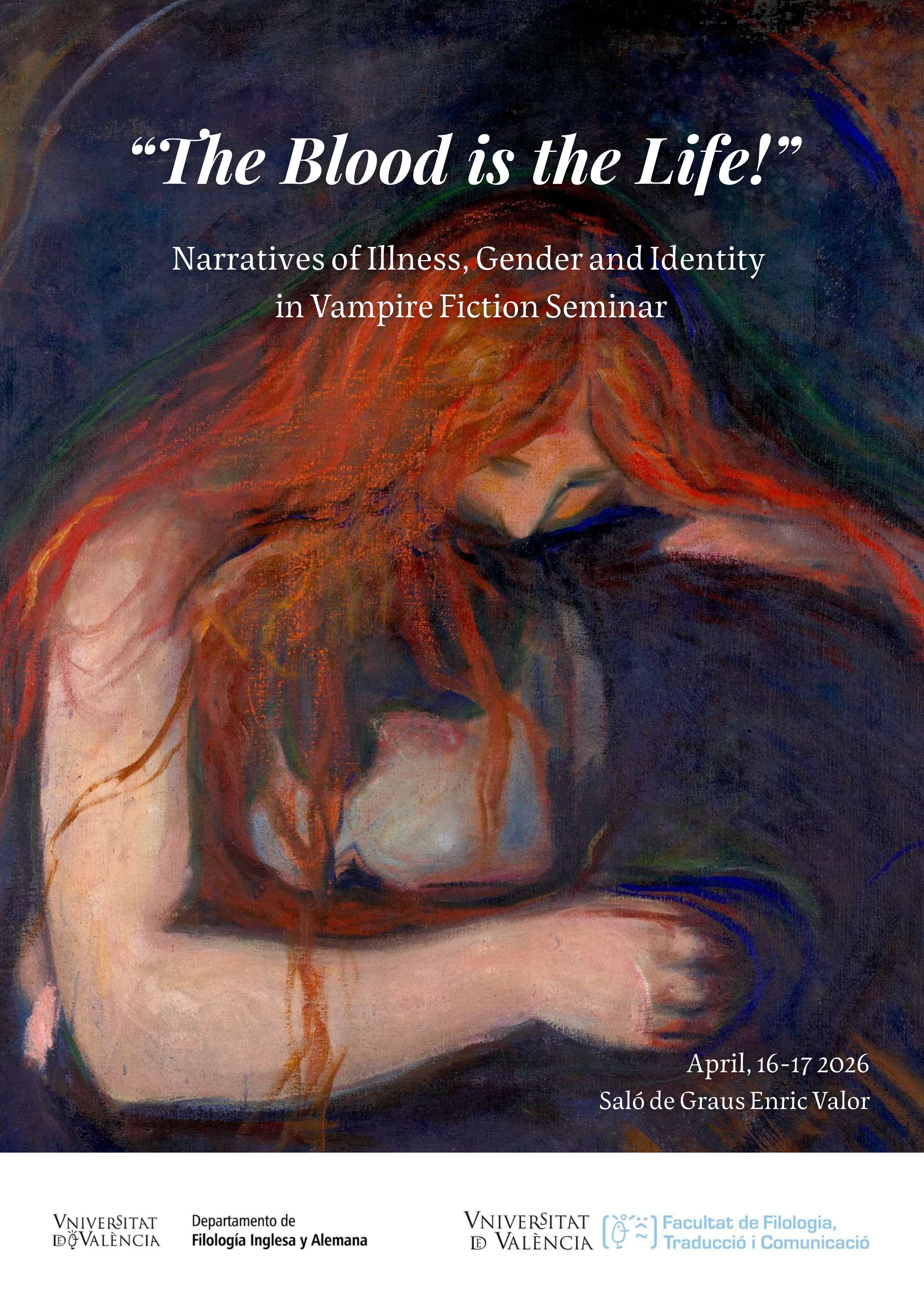


An abstract painting featuring a woman with long, flowing red hair. Her face is partially visible, with her eyes closed and a serene expression. The background is a mix of dark, swirling colors like blue, green, and purple, creating a dreamlike atmosphere. The style is expressive, with visible brushstrokes and a rich, textured palette.

“The Blood is the Life!”

Narratives of Illness, Gender and Identity
in Vampire Fiction Seminar

April, 16-17 2026
Saló de Graus Enric Valor

“The Blood is the Life!”: Narratives of Illness, Gender and Identity in Vampire Fiction Seminar

Facultat de Filologia, Traducció i Comunicació (Universitat de València)

16th and 17th April 2026

Convenors:

Dr. Dina Pedro (Universitat de València)

Dr. Laura Miñano (Universitat de València)

Organizing Committee:

Dr. Sara Llopis Mestre (Universitat de València)

Dr. Gora Zaragoza Ninet (Universitat de València)

Ms. Paola Baixauli (Universitat de València)

Dr. Patricia Palomino-Manjón (Centro Universitario de la Defensa de Zaragoza)

Dr. Marta Bernabéu (Universidad de Salamanca)

Dr. Rocío Riestra-Camacho (Universidad de Oviedo)

Dr. Isabel Marqués (Universidad Complutense de Madrid)

Dr. Clara Cantos (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid)

Scientific Committee:

Dr. Andrea Burgos Mascarell (Universitat de València)

Dr. María López Rubio (Universitat de València/ Universitat Jaume I de Castelló)

Dr. Alejandro Nadal Ruiz (Universidad de Zaragoza)

Dr. Laura Roldán Sevillano (Universidad de Zaragoza)

Dr. Isabel Treviño López (Centro Universitario de la Defensa de Zaragoza)

(“Saló de graus”, 1st floor), April 16th

9:00 9:30	Registration /registro
9:30 10:00	Opening remarks / apertura Dr. José Antonio Calañas Continente (Dean of the School of Philology, Translation and Media) Dr. Miguel Martínez López (Chair of the Department of English and German) Dr. Dina Pedro (convenor) Dr. Laura Miñano (convenor)
10:00 11:00	Keynote speaker (in Spanish) / sesión plenaria Modera: Dra. Dina Pedro Dra. Purificació Mascarell (Universitat de València) <i>Succión masculina; alienación femenina: historias ocultas de vampiros y vampirizadas</i>
11:00 11:30	Break

	<i>Queer Readings of Carmilla</i> Chair: Cata Nazario Abbott 11:30 Dr. Sara Llopis-Mestre y Dr. Gora Zaragoza-Ninet, <i>Francoist Queer Policing in the Translational Afterlives of Le Fanu's Carmilla</i> 12:30 Marta Calatayud García, <i>From a menace to a source of liberation. Carmilla as a character in contemporary: retellings of Sheridan Le Fanu's classic</i> Marta González Cañete, <i>"To Die Together, So That They May Live Together": Lesbian Vampires And The Reappropriation of Penetration</i>
	<i>Metáforas, patologías y discursos sociales en torno al vampirismo (in Spanish)</i> Modera: Rodrigo Carmen Cerdán 12:30 Daniel López Fernández, <i>"A la cosa que ante mí representas no le late un corazón en el pecho": los vampiros en El Capital de Karl Marx</i> 13:30 Dr. Francisco Pérez-Fernández, Dr. Francisco López-Muñoz y Dr. Francisco Javier Sánchez-Verdejo Pérez, <i>El vampirismo como trastorno parafilico</i> Alberto Sesmero, <i>De ángel inocente a corruptora de la sangre: el personaje de la vampiresa como subversión del relato hegemónico de la mujer infectada por VIH/sida.</i>
13:30 15:00	Lunch / comida

15:00	Round table / <i>mesa redonda</i>: <i>Vampirism and the Medicalized Body: Gender, Power, and Monstrosity</i> Dr. Agnieszka Stasiewicz-Bieńkowska, (Jagiellonian University), Dr. Marta Bernabéu (USAL) Dr. Dina Pedro, Dr. Laura Miñano, Dr. Andrea Burgos Mascarell (Universitat de València)
16:00	
16:00	Break
16:30	
16:30	<i>Trayectoria y evolución del vampiro en el cine y literatura (in Spanish)</i> Moderator: María López Rubio Stefania Antonia, Chirita <i>Embrujando la verdad del strigoi: control social y discurso mítico</i> Luz Atenas Mendoza, <i>Algunos mitos de híbridos vampíricos: desde el glogve hasta el dhampire</i> Pau Tronch i Valls, <i>El vampiro transfigurado: figuras y cuerpos vampíricos del cine</i>
17:30	
17:30	<i>Nineteenth-Century Female Vampires: Contamination, Desire, and Otherness</i> Chair: Dr. Andrea Burgos Mascarell Anesa Muslimovic Ortega, “<i>What is more lovely, after all, than a monster undone with want?</i>”: <i>The Monstrous feminine and Monstrous Sexuality in S. T. Gibson’s A Dowry of Blood (2021)</i> Elisa Xamena Flexas, <i>Female Vampires and the fear of Contagion in Carmilla and Good Lady Ducayne</i> Elisabeth Merchán Muñoz, <i>Contaminating Otherness in the 19th century: Le Fanu’s Carmilla and Gautier’s La Morte Amoureuse</i>
18:30	

20:00	<i>Seminar Dinner</i>
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(“Saló de graus”, 1 st floor), April 17 th	
	<i>(Neo-)Victorian Reimaginings of the Vampire</i> Chair: Dr. Dina Pedro
9:00	Dr. Clara Contreras Ameduri, <i>The Monster Talks Back: Vampiric Configurations of Bella Baxter in Alasdair Gray’s Poor Things</i> (1992)
10:00	Dr. Marta Bernabéu Lorenzo, <i>Androgyny and the Gendered Politics of Appetite from Wuthering Heights (1847) to Only Lovers Left Alive</i> (2013)
	Núria Andrés Curto, <i>Vampiric Reflections: The Affective Dimensions of the Racialised ‘Other’ in Jane Eyre and Wuthering Heights</i>
	<i>Vampirism and the Politics of the Body</i> Chair: Dr. Mayron Cantillo Lucuara
10:00	
11:00	Paola Baixauli, “ <i>You cannot bargain with a thing inhuman</i> ”: <i>The soucouyant as an embodiment of pica and transgenerational colonial trauma in Helen Oyeyemi’s White is For Witching</i> (2009)
	Cata Nazario Abbott, “ <i>Maybe I Should Give Her My Life</i> ”: <i>Vampirism, Blame and Disability in The Carmilla Movie</i> (2017)

	Paula Martínez Vega, <i>“Something was tragically wrong with me”: an analysis of bodily confinements in Jody Scott’s I, Vampire</i>
11:00 12:00	Mindfulness workshop by Aroa Borrás, psicóloga clínica Taller de Mindfulness por Aroa Borrás, clynical psychologist
12:00 12:30	Break
12:30 13:30	<i>Vampirism, Storytelling, and Cultural Incorporation in Sinners (2025)</i> Chair: Dr. Laura Miñano Sergio García Jiménez, <i>From Outcasts to Undead: Vampires as Forces of Assimilation and Reservoirs of Historical Trauma in Ryan Coogler’s Sinners (2025)</i> Mário António Alves Ribeiro, <i>My name is Legion: Cultural Anthropophagy, Hive-Mind Vampires and the Other in I am Legend (1954) and Sinners (2025)</i> Fernando Sánchez López, <i>“I want your stories, and I want your songs. And you gon’ have mine”: Sinners and the Vampiric Nature of the Melting Pot</i>
13:30 14:30	<i>Postcolonial Readings across Gothic and YA Fiction</i> Chair: Dr. Sara Llopis-Mestre Viviana Campo, <i>The Long Night of the Eternally Resting</i> Andrea Montero García Moreno, <i>Feminine Monstrosity and Race in the Nineteenth-Century Gothic Novel: The Figure of the Female</i>

	<i>Vampire in Harriet Brandt</i> Ines Camarena Caselles and Paula Castillo Reyes, <i>Between Monster and Girl: Rewriting the Female Vampire in YA Fiction</i>
14:30 16:00	Lunch / comida
16:00 17:00	<i>Cinematic Vampirism</i> Chair: Dr. Agnieszka Stasiewicz-Bieńkowska Dr. Dina Pedro, <i>“I Write of what I Cannot Speak”: Scryptotherapy as a Coping Mechanism for Sexual Assault in Byzantium (dir. Neil Jordan, 2012)</i> Diego Morales Arocas, <i>Vampiric Otherness in American Southern Gothic Horror Cinema: Carmilla (1989)</i> Ángela Muro Arpón, <i>“We’re Here, We’re Queer, and Ready to Norm-Veer: Mapping Queerness in Vampire Media Representation</i>
17:00 17:45	Reading of vampiric poems by Aarón Lozano Sadornil (in Spanish) Lectura de poemas vampíricos de Aarón Lozano Sadornil Modera: Dina Pedro
17:45 18:00	Closing remarks / clausura del congreso