Syllabus Language

Monster Bash Group Project
This semester, our course has a special project that will get you course points and extra credit. In April, we will throw a party for local high schoolers, together with a UA course on vampires and werewolves. In preparation for this “Monster Bash,” which will take place during class time on the Mall, you will prepare a course-related and theme-appropriate poster or project that includes questions/challenges/games for our guests with your group. You will have one class period to do the bulk of the work together, but you will have to prepare in advance (plan and bring supplies) and finish up anything that you didn’t manage in your own time. On the Monster Bash day, you will show up in a course-related costume for which you will receive 1.5% extra credit on your final grade, and you will interact with our guests and passersby for the duration of class to explain the project, engage them in the challenge, and give them credit for successfully fulfilled tasks, which they can trade for food/drink. Your costumes entitle you to free food/drinks. You will submit an image of the group project with an explanation of how it works and who did what on D2L for grading. The 5% for the group project will be allocated according to the following five criteria: clarity, creativity, timely completion, full bash attendance (incl. setup & cleanup, confirmed by your group members), and guest engagement (measured by your record of participant names & feedback).

Excerpt from the Grant Report
Monster Bash brought together over 500 people on the UA Mall to explore the question what it means to be human. Costume-clad students from “GER 160A1: From Animation to Zombies” and “RSSS 315: Werewolves and Vampires” turned their GenEd course material into interactive games and creative trivia for a group of local middle school students and the UA campus community. Student stations would beckon you to learn the dance moves to Michael Jackson’s “Thriller” or have you collaborate on staving off a virus outbreak. Others showcased the image of vampires in popular culture, connected werewolf legends to the lunar cycle, or tested your knowledge of Slavic folklore. The visiting middle/high schoolers received stamps in their monster passports for every interaction, which they traded for food and drink. […] The GenEd students overwhelmingly reported how much fun they had as they took ownership of the course materials and presented it from new perspectives.