



Mythology

CATALOGUE NUMBER: HUM 2310

TERM: SPRING 2024

COURSE NUMBER: 22549

CREDIT HOURS: 3

PREREQUISITE: ENC 1101, ENC 1101H, or IDH 1110



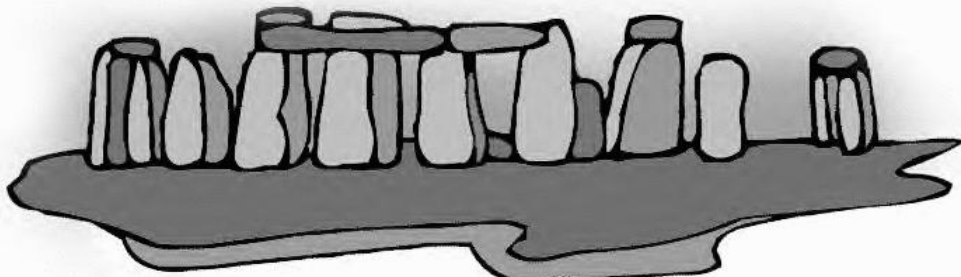
- SCHEDULE:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, Jan. 8 – April 28, 2024
11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.
- CLASSROOM:** West Campus, Building 5, Room 229
- INSTRUCTOR:** Mr. Tony DeSormier
Office hours: Contact me via email/Canvas messenger to arrange a Zoom conference
Email: adesormier1@valenciacollege.edu
Phone: 407 765-9846 (**ONLY FOR EMERGENCIES**)
- TEXT:** *Introduction to Mythology: Contemporary Approaches to Classical and World Myths*
Eva M. Thury and Margaret K. Deviney
4th edition, Oxford University Press, ISBN 978-0-19-026298-3

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Examines world mythology in comparative perspective, analyzes myths with a variety of methods, and considers the application of mythological ideas and symbols in the humanities. Gordon Rule course in which the student is required to demonstrate college-level writing skills through multiple writing assignments. Minimum grade of C is required if used to satisfy Gordon Rule requirement.

COURSE OBJECTIVE: This class will focus on the definition of “mythology” as “a body of stories ... charged with a special seriousness and importance ...” including “values and perspectives that inform the society and culture of the storytellers” (Thury and Deviney 4). Guided by these parameters, the course will look at myths of various cultures, past and present, dealing with universal themes and archetypal characters.

VALENCIA STUDENT CORE COMPETENCIES: The faculty of Valencia College has identified four core competencies that define the learning outcomes for a successful Valencia graduate. These competencies are at the heart of the Valencia experience and provide the context for learning and assessment at Valencia College. You will be given opportunities to develop and practice these competencies in this class. The four competencies are:

1. **Think** - think clearly, and creatively, analyze, synthesize, integrate and evaluate in the many domains of human inquiry
2. **Value** - make reasoned judgments and responsible commitments
3. **Communicate** - communicate with different audiences using varied means
4. **Act** - act purposefully, effectively and responsibly



IMPORTANT DATES:

Martin Luther King Jr. Day	Jan. 15
Drop deadline with refund:	Jan. 16
Application deadline for graduation	Feb. 2
Withdrawal deadline (“W” grade)	March 15
Spring Break	March 17-24
Discussion Boards	Jan. 14, 28; Feb. 11, 25; March 10, 24; April 7, 21
Response Paper	Feb. 18
Final Paper	April 3
Tests	Jan. 18, Feb. 1, 15, 27; March 7; April 2, 16, 25
Final Test	Thursday, April 25

GRADING PLAN: Your final grade is determined by the percentage of points you earn of the 780 made available during the semester.

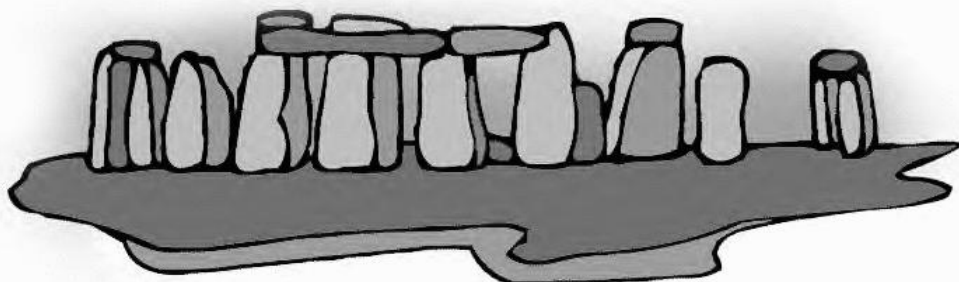
Point Distribution		Grade Scale	
Discussions (8 @ 10 each)	80	89.01 – 100 percent	A
Response paper	100	79.01 – 89.0 percent	B
Research paper	200	69.01 – 79.0 percent	C
Section tests (8 @ 50 each)	400	59.01 – 69.0 percent	D
		Below 59.0 percent	F

Students must complete all assignments; anything missing will receive a grade of 0.

GRADE ADJUSTMENTS: There will be **NO CURVE** of any test. There is **NO DROPPING** of the lowest grade. There is **NO OPPORTUNITY** for extra credit. If you have time to do extra credit, that means you had time to do the assigned work correctly in the first place.

ATTENDANCE: There are 29 class meetings, each with a value of 3 points. Each absence will result in a 3-point deduction. If you are late, it is your responsibility to make sure that you have not been marked absent before leaving that night. Repeatedly being tardy or leaving early will result in a one-point deduction for each time it happens after the second incident. The instructor reserves the right to withdraw a student from the class for missing more than 10 percent of classes scheduled (three class meetings).

PARTICIPATION: Successful completion of this course requires an element of participation. This will be accomplished through the Discussion function in the class’s Canvas webpage. Students are required to post a three to five-line comment on the topic posted and at least one academically appropriate response to a classmate’s post. You will not be able to see other students’ responses until you have posted yours. Once you have posted your reply, read through your classmates’ responses and write a two to three-line reaction. You will receive five (5) points for posting an original response and five (5) for your reaction; **NO, YOU WILL NOT GET EXTRA POINTS FOR RESPONDING TO MULTIPLE ENTRIES.**



PROLONGED ABSENCE: If you are unable to participate in the course due to illness, family emergency, etc., please communicate with me as soon as possible in order to create a plan to complete any missed assignments so that your learning can progress in your course. In the case of a prolonged online absence, please communicate with me as soon as possible in order to create a plan for the best course of action.

WITHDRAWAL POLICY: Per Valencia Policy 4-07 (Academic Progress, Course Attendance and Grades, and Withdrawals), a student who withdraws from class before the withdrawal deadline of **March 15** will receive a grade of “W.” A faculty member is permitted to withdraw a student from the faculty member's class up to **April 21** for violation of the class attendance policy as published in this syllabus. A student is not permitted to withdraw from this class after the withdrawal deadline; if you remain in the class after the withdrawal deadline, you can only receive a grade of A, B, C, D, F or I. An I grade will only be assigned under extraordinary circumstances that occur near the end of the semester. If you receive an I, the work missed must be made up during the following semester, at which time you will get an A, B, C, D or F. Failure to make up the work during the following semester will result in you getting a grade of F in the course. Any student who withdraws from this class during a third or subsequent attempt in this course will be assigned a grade of “F.”

For a complete policy and procedure overview on Valencia Policy 4-07 go to:

http://valenciacollege.edu/generalcounsel/policy/default.cfm?policyID=75&volumeID_1=4&navst=0

ATTENDANCE – WITHDRAWAL NOTICE:

If a student knowing he/she is not passing the course and fails to withdraw by March 15 but decides to stop coming to class should know the professor will not withdraw him/her from the course and the grade of F will be assigned.

FINANCIAL AID IMPACT OF WITHDRAWAL: Students on financial aid should consult an advisor or counselor before withdrawing from a course; there may be financial implications to the student which he or she must know about to make an informed decision before withdrawing from a course. Students with some scholarships who withdraw or are withdrawn from a class must pay the college for the cost of the class. Other scholarship sponsors may also require repayment.

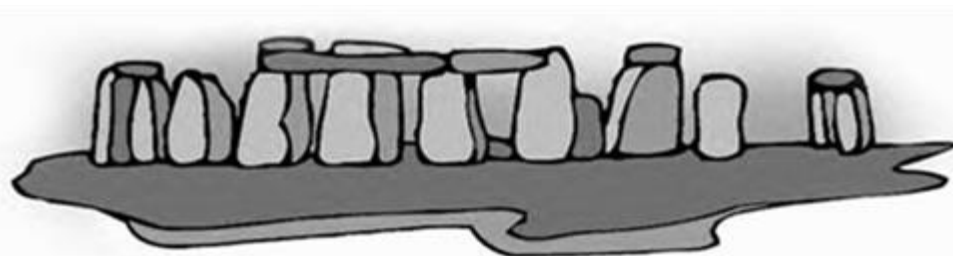
In order to academically maintain financial aid, students must meet all of the following requirements:

- Complete 67% of all classes attempted, and
- Maintain a Valencia GPA of 2.0 or higher, and
- Maintain an overall GPA of 2.0 or higher, and
- Complete degree within the 150% timeframe

Detailed information about maintaining satisfactory academic progress (SAP) can be found at:

http://valenciacollege.edu/finaid/satisfactory_progress.cfm

TESTS: There will be a test on each section covering (among other things) key terms, dates, figures, concepts, and historical “firsts.” Each test will consist of 25 multiple choice questions. If you are in attendance on the day a test is scheduled, you will be expected to take it. **STUDENTS WHO REFUSE TO TAKE THE TEST WILL HAVE THEIR GRADE REDUCED BY 5 (FIVE) POINTS.** If you miss a test for whatever reason, you will be expected to take it the next time you come to class. Missing more than two tests will result in an automatic 5-point deduction on each remaining test taken as a make-up.



RESPONSE PAPERS: You are to write a personal response paper (worth 100 points) discussing your insight into a minimum of two excerpts contained in the textbook. The paper should examine some connection between the excerpts you have made, perhaps connecting to some contemporary theme or trend. You may choose any two excerpts, but each must come from a different chapter. **The papers are due Feb. 18; papers turned in after the assigned date will be penalized 10 points and an additional 10 points for each week that it is late. NO RESPONSE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER MARCH 31.**

Technical guidelines:

- Papers must be a minimum of 1,000 words (three full pages).
- All papers **MUST** be typed in 12-point Times New Roman.
- Papers must follow basic MLA format: 1-inch margins, double-spaced, etc.
- Spelling, grammar, and neatness count.

Content guidelines:

- You must discuss the readings in some specific detail.
- The paper should offer some personal insight and/or supported opinion.
- The paper should address the works' influence on/relevance to contemporary culture.

FINAL PAPERS: Many stories have the potential to achieve mythic status. Aside from the test of time, whether or not a piece of literature -- be it film, theater, television, prose, legend, or graphic novel -- achieves mythological status is determined by if it conveys or reinforces "important cultural values." In this assignment, you will discuss how you believe one of the characters and related stories from the provided list contains mythic qualities. This is to be accomplished through these two ways:

A. How does the character and tale provide one of the insights as defined on page 13 of the *Introduction to Mythology* textbook.

B. What cultural values are revealed when examining a character or tale using one of the forms of analysis introduced and discussed in the textbook.

The academic purpose is for you to express your understanding of the cultural significance of myths and that you are able to explain and defend your position regarding the mythological qualities a character and/or tale. The list of possible characters and stories will be provided in Canvas.

Technical guidelines:

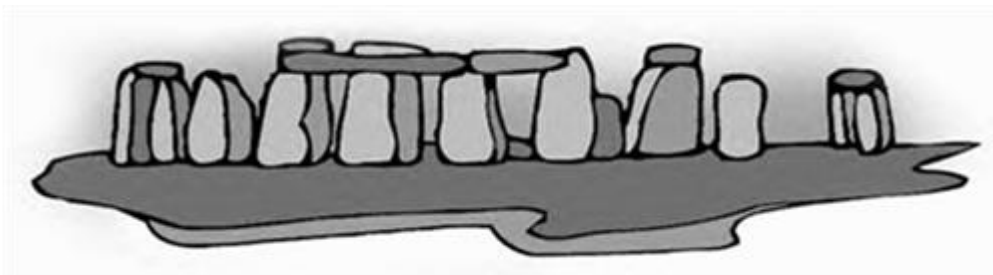
- Paper must be a minimum of 1,500 words.
- All papers **MUST** be typed in 12-point Times New Roman.
- Papers must follow basic MLA format: 1-inch margins, double-spaced, etc.
- Spelling, grammar, and neatness count.

Content guidelines:

- The first paragraph of the paper should end with a worthy thesis statement.
- The thesis statement must express a strong, defensible opinion about the topic.
- The opinion must be supported by at least three arguments or elements of evidence.

Important research paper dates:

- Papers are to be submitted on Canvas by midnight April 3.
- The grade for papers submitted after midnight on April 3 will be reduced by 10 points.
- The grade for papers submitted after midnight on April 10 will be reduced by 20 points.
- The grade for papers submitted after midnight on April 17 will be reduced by 30 points.
- NO PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER MIDNIGHT ON APRIL 24.**



**ALL PAPERS – RESPONSE AND FINAL -- MUST BE SUBMITTED VIA CANVAS;
PAPERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED IF SUBMITTED IN ANY OTHER FASHION.
IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT TO MAKE SURE
THAT HE/SHE IS ABLE TO SUBMIT THE PAPER AS REQUIRED;
TECHNICAL ISSUES ARE NOT AN ACCEPTABLE EXCUSE FOR A PAPER BEING LATE.**

ACADEMIC HONESTY: Valencia College Arts/Humanities West Plagiarism Policy

All work submitted for credit in any class must be the product of the individual student's own original thoughts supported and informed by appropriately documented and credited sources.

Plagiarism is the use of someone else's words, ideas, pictures, design, and/or intellectual property without the correct documentation and punctuation.

Plagiarism takes many forms: for example, turning in the same essay for two different courses is considered **self-plagiarism** and will result in a zero for the paper. You may legitimately wonder how anyone would ever know; this is one of the purposes of the **TurnItIn.com** plagiarism scan.

Plagiarism is morally indefensible. Any assignment showing signs of plagiarism, either the:

1. Deliberate cut-and-paste of online or print sources;
2. Recycling of essays from previous classes;
3. Essays written on behalf of the student by family members or friends, or third parties, such as professional essay writing services;
4. The result of inattention and incompetence;
5. Paraphrasing large sections based on the ideas of another source...even if you put it into your own words **will be graded zero**. A second offense will result in an appointment with the dean of the Arts and Humanities Department.

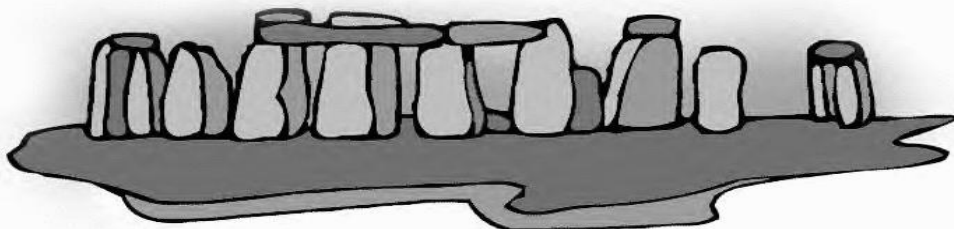
How to Avoid Plagiarism:

Here is a good rule: It is better to be safe than sorry in academic writing. Always cite your sources. A person's ideas are their intellectual property. You wouldn't go into another student's backpack and steal their property. Plagiarism is stealing the ideas of another person and passing them off as your own without giving them credit.

1. This includes paraphrasing or summarizing, as well as cut and paste.
2. Cutting and pasting large sections of text, even when you cite your sources, does not represent college level, original writing.

If you look something up for your paper, cite your sources in text and in your works cited page. Even if you summarize, give the author of the ideas credit.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: Students with disabilities who qualify for academic accommodations must provide a Notification to Instructor (NTI) form from the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) and discuss specific needs with the professor, preferably during the first two weeks of class; accommodations will not be applied retroactively. The Office for Students with Disabilities determines accommodations based on appropriate documentation of disabilities. The West Campus office is located in SSB, Rm. 102, Phone: 407-582-1523, Fax: 407-582-1326



EXPECTED STUDENT CONDUCT

Valencia College is dedicated not only to the advancement of knowledge and learning but is concerned with the development of responsible personal and social conduct. By enrolling at Valencia College, a student assumes the responsibility for becoming familiar with and abiding by the general rules of conduct. The primary responsibility for managing the classroom environment rests with the faculty. Students who engage in any prohibited or unlawful acts will be directed to leave the class. Student behavior or speech that disrupts the instructional setting or is clearly disrespectful of the instructor or fellow students will not be tolerated. Disruptive conduct may include but is not limited to:

- Rude or disrespectful behavior;
- Unwarranted interruptions;
- Failure to adhere to instructor's directions;
- Vulgar or obscene language, slurs, or other forms of intimidation;
- Physically or verbally abusive behavior.

Violation of any classroom or Valencia's rules may lead to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from Valencia. Disciplinary action could include being withdrawn from class, disciplinary warning, probation, suspension, expulsion, or other appropriate and authorized actions. You will find the Student Code of Conduct in the current Valencia Student Handbook.

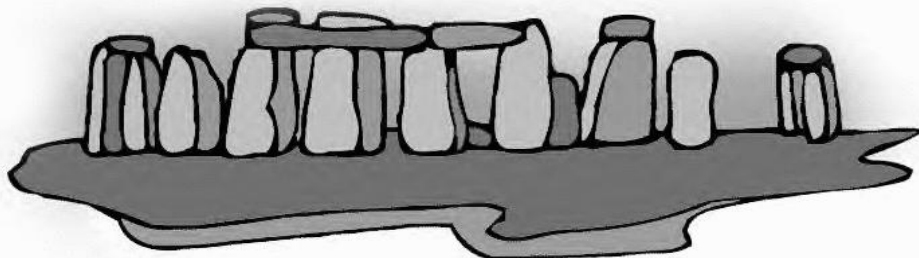
COMPUTER/EQUIPMENT USE POLICY: Use of computers in the Business, IT, and Public Service classrooms at Valencia College is restricted to those activities designated by the instructor to enhance the class materials. Any other use is strictly forbidden. Inappropriate use includes, but is not limited to:

- Use of computer to send E-mail or access Internet sites not specifically assigned in class.
- Use of computer for job, internship, homework or other activities not assigned in class.
- Modifying any hardware or software system configuration or setting.
- Activities not in accordance with the Valencia Student Code of Conduct

Use of computers in the departmental open lab is limited to those activities involved with preparing homework or coursework in this department and is subject to the same restriction as listed above. Computer use is remotely monitored; any student using computers inappropriately may be to the campus administration for further disciplinary action.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES IN CLASS: Cellular phones may be on during class. However, text messaging or answering your cell phone while in-class will be considered disruptive behavior and can be a cause for your dismissal from class; if you receive a call or message to which you must respond immediately, you may leave the classroom to do so. At no time are you to listen to any music device during class. Notebooks, computers, and tablets may be used during class for e-texts or taking notes only.

PERSONAL SECURITY: Valencia College wants to reassure you that security officers are here around the clock to ensure the safety and security of the campus community. It's important to remain alert and aware of your surroundings, especially during the early morning or evening hours. You may always call security for an escort if you feel uncomfortable walking alone on campus. White security phones also can be found in many of our buildings; simply pick up the phone and security will answer. Finally, report any suspicious persons to West Campus Security at 407-582-1000, 407-582-1030 (after-hours number) or by using the yellow emergency call boxes located on light poles in the parking lots and along walkways.



STUDENT SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE: Valencia College is committed to making sure all students have a rewarding and successful college experience. To that purpose, Valencia students can get immediate help that may assist them with psychological issues dealing with stress, anxiety, depression, adjustment difficulties, substance abuse, time management as well as relationship problems dealing with school, home, or work. Students have 24 hour unlimited access to the Baycare Behavioral Health's confidential student assistance program phone counseling services by calling (800) 878-5470. Three free confidential face-to-face counseling sessions are also available to students.

Also, students may need to contact the Victim Service Center's Sexual Assault Hotline at 407-497-6701 or at <http://www.victimservicecenter.com/>

TESTING CENTER: The Testing Center-West is located in Building 11, Room 142, 407-582-1323.

Please note:

No tests are given out the last hour before closing—for example, if the Center closes at 9 p.m., the last test is given out at 8 p.m. Tests will be collected 5 minutes prior to closing.

Summer Sessions: Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 9 p.m.
Fridays: 8:00 am- 12:00 Noon
Saturday 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

What You Need to Bring:

Your Valencia Photo I.D. is **REQUIRED** for all tests.

The name of the course you are taking and your instructor's name.

All supplies you will need to take the test. If your test requires bluebooks or green scantron sheets, purchase them in the bookstore. The Testing Center does not provide notebook paper, pens or pencils. Dictionaries and calculators may be borrowed.

What You Do NOT Bring:

Beepers, cell phones, personal tape or CD players, palm pilots, laptop computers.

Food or beverages. You will not be allowed to take these to your seat.

Children are not permitted in the Testing Center – The Testing Center does not provide sitting services during your test.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT SERVICES: Tutoring services are available in bldg. 7-240 (407-582-1633).

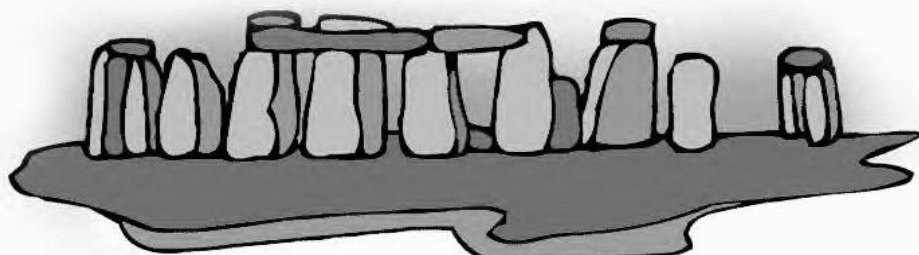
The Writing Center: bldg. 5-155 (407-582-1812)

Computer Access Lab: bldg. 6-101 (407-582-1646)

Smarthinking.com, an online on-demand student support site

Valencia College also offers a variety of SkillShops: short seminars covering a variety of topics which deal with student success, goals and purpose. To check out Valencia's Skillshop offerings, go to:

<http://valenciacollege.edu/studentservices/skillshops.cfm>



VALENCIA ID CARDS: Valencia ID cards are required for Library, Testing Center, and IMC usage. No other form of ID will be accepted. Valencia Photo IDs are taken in the Security Office in the Student Services Building (SSB), Room 170. The Valencia photo I.D. also has your VID number on it.

ACADEMIC ISSUES AND APPEALS PROCESS: Valencia College is committed to providing each student a quality educational experience. Faculty members have set high standards of instruction for themselves and for you. If you have a problem in a class, your first step is to talk to your instructor. If you are still dissatisfied, you may talk with the academic dean of the division for your class. We will work together to resolve any issues that arise.

Grade issues ----- Molly McIntire, mmcintire1@valenciacollege.edu

Behavioral issues ----- Danielle Hossain, ext. 5166

Please know we will follow the following process:

Have you talked to your professor?

Have you talked to the Discipline or Program Chair?

Have you talked to our Division Coordinator?

For students: <https://secure.valenciacollege.edu/students/disputes/>

WEATHER EMERGENCIES AND CAMPUS ALERTS: In the case of weather emergencies, you can find out about school closings by signing up to update your information for Valencia Alerts.

IMPORTANT VALENCIA COLLEGE WEBSITE LINKS:

College Calendar: <http://valenciacollege.edu/calendar/>

College Catalog: <http://valenciacollege.edu/catalog/>

Valencia Policy and Procedures: <http://valenciacollege.edu/generalcounsel/policy/>

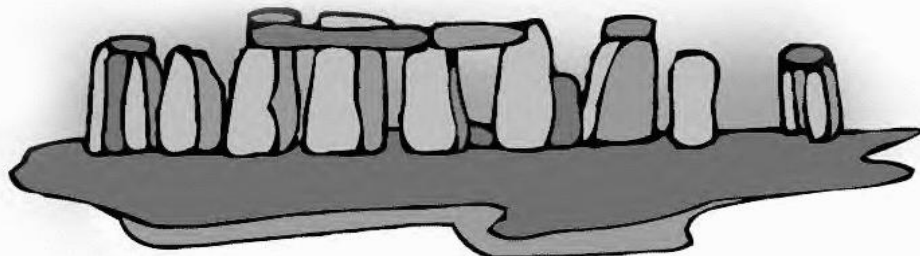
FERPA: <http://valenciacollege.edu/ferpa/>

ADA: <http://valenciacollege.edu/osd/handbook/sec4.htm>

Medical Records:

<http://valenciacollege.edu/generalcounsel/policy/ValenciaCollegePolicy.cfm?policyID=186>

DISCLAIMER: This syllabus may be altered, at the instructor's discretion, during the course of the term. It is the responsibility of the student to make any adjustments as announced.



VALENCIA COLLEGE

Distance Tutoring & Online Tech Support

All services listed below are provided in real-time by trained Valencia tutors and staff fully online via Zoom.

FREE Tutoring

- Offered in a variety of subjects: mathematics, sciences, accounting & economics, computer programming, EAP and foreign languages

FREE Writing Assistance

- 1-on-1 writing consultations
- Assistance available for all parts of the writing process
- Option for submitting papers for review also available

FREE Tech Support

- Receive assistance navigating: OneDrive, Zoom, YouTube, Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, & PowerPoint), and Canvas
- Support also provided for video editing (via iMovie and MovieMaker) and converting documents from a Mac to a PC
- Available live (on-demand), by appointment, or via email

**Click here to get started or visit
www.valenciacollege.edu/tutoring**

The West Writing Center's Booking System

Did you know you can now make Writing Center appointments online? It's quick and easy!

1. Sign in to your **Atlas** account.
2. Click on **Courses**.
3. Click on **West Campus Writing Center**.
4. For first time users, **create an account** by entering your name and VID number. You will never have to create the account again!
5. You will be transferred to WC Online, where you can see the times and consultants available. Simply **click on the desired session, enter the assignment information, save, and wait for your confirmation email!**

***Note:** Fifty-five-minute appointments will be granted to students by a Writing Center consultant's referral or by a class professor's request. Referral forms are available at the Writing Center front desk.

Important!

Students will be emailed consultations records at the end of every session. If you would like your instructor to receive a copy of the consultation record, simply forward the email to the instructor OR provide the instructor's email address to the consultant during the session.



WEST CAMPUS WRITING CENTER 101

We promise that:

- Your consultation will be with an instructor.
- The consultation emphasis will be on teaching and learning.
- We will discuss as much as is reasonable in a 25-minute consultation.
- Your paper will probably leave better than when it came in. Improvements are inherently a part of the writing consultation process.
- You will be your own proof-reader, a transferable skill you can use everywhere.
- We'll help you try to earn good grades, but grades are your responsibility.
- We will help you become a better writer!

How to use the Writing Center to your benefit:

1. Plan ahead! Make appointments well in advance of deadlines.
2. Use our services up to three times a week (once each day) during your writing process.
3. Bring your assignment (paper or electronic copy), sources, course materials, and questions to the appointment. HINT: Paper draft copies allow for optimization of your time.
4. Identify and share your goals for the consultation.
5. Let us know what the assignment requirements are and your professor's expectations.
6. Transfer the strategies you learn during the consultation to other writing tasks you have.
7. Take notes during the consultation to help yourself when you're working on your own.
8. Plan your next steps as you revise and what you want to learn at your next Writing Center visit.
9. Practice, practice, practice your new writing skills between visits!
10. Be kind to yourself along the way; it's called the writing process for a reason - there are many steps to becoming a better writer, and you have started down the path!

Check out our resources at <http://valenciacollege.edu/WestWritingCenter>



Reading schedule and assignments

- JAN. 9** Overview and Introduction
- JAN. 11** **Reading due:** What is Myth? pp. 3-17
- JAN. 14** **Discussion 1 due**
- JAN. 15** **MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY; NO CLASSES SCHEDULED**
- JAN. 16** **Reading due:** Ways of Understanding Myth, pp.18-24
- JAN. 18** **Test 1: Chapters 1 and 2**
- JAN. 23** **Reading due:** Myths of Creation and Destruction, pp. 25-26
Creation, pp. 27-28
Chapter 5: The Bible: Genesis (Creation), pp. 56-63
- JAN. 25** **Reading due:** Chapter 8: North America – Zuni, Hopi, Navajo, pp. 97-120
Chapter 9: Africa – Uganda and Nigeria, pp. 121-129
- JAN. 28** **Discussion 2 due**
- JAN. 30** **Reading due:** Destruction, pp. 181-184
Chapter 13: Genesis (Flood), pp. 196-203
Chapter 14: Icelandic/Norse – Prose Edda (Ragnarok), pp. 204-210
- FEB. 1** **Test 2: Myths of Creation and Destruction, Creation, Chapter 5, Chapter 8, Chapter 9, Destruction, Chapter 13, Chapter 14**
- FEB. 6** **Reading due:** Heroes and Tricksters, pp. 211-215
Chapter 15: Joseph Campbell, *The Hero with a Thousand Faces*, pp. 217-224
- FEB. 8** **Reading due:** Chapter 16: Mesopotamia – *Gilgamesh*, pp. 225-233, 244-247, 255-261
Chapter 17: A Lévi-Straussian Analysis of *Gilgamesh*, pp. 262-272
- FEB. 11** **Discussion 3 due**
- FEB. 13** **Reading due:** Chapter 23: The Structural Study of Myth – Claude Lévi-Strauss, pp. 439-455
Chapter 26: Greece: Prometheus, pp. 483-489
Chapter 27: Different Versions of Myths, pp. 490-498
- FEB. 15** **Test 3: Heroes and Tricksters, Chapter 15, Chapter 16, Chapter 17, Chapter 23, Chapter 26, Chapter 27**
- FEB. 18** **RESPONSE PAPER DUE**
- FEB. 20** **Reading due:** Ritual and Myth, pp. 499-503
Chapter 28: The Forest of Symbols, pp. 505-518
- FEB. 22** **Reading due:** Chapter 29: Greece – Demeter and Persephone, pp. 519-527
Chapter 30: Egypt – Isis and Osiris, pp. 538-547
- FEB. 25** **Discussion 4 due**

