

CLASS	DAY/TIME	ROOM
HUM2310 Sec TW3	T/R 1:00-2:50pm	8-245

I COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course 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 which requires college level writing. Minimum grade of C required if used to satisfy Gordon Rule requirements.

II. PREREQUISITE

Satisfactory completion of ENC 1101 (Freshman Composition I).

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES

- 1. To develop analytical skills for mythological material*
- 2. To recognize mythical elements to historical narrative*
- 3. To identify mythological themes in the art of five geographical areas*
- 4. To know five major stages of Heroic epic in mythology*
- 5. To evaluate the function of myth in pre-modern and modern society*

IV. VALENCIA STUDENT CORE COMPETENCIES

Think clearly, critically and creatively by analyzing, synthesizing, integrating and evaluating symbolic works and truth claims.

Value by understanding your own and others' values from individual, cultural and global perspectives.

Communicate by reading, listening, writing and speaking effectively.

Act purposefully, reflectively and responsibly by implementing effective problem solving and decision making strategies.

V. DISABILITIES STATEMENT

The Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) is committed to the fulfillment of equal educational opportunity, academic freedom and human dignity for students with disabilities. The OSD exists to provide reasonable and appropriate accommodations for qualified students with documented disabilities, to assist students in self-advocacy, to educate the Valencia community about disabilities, and to ensure compliance with the ADA and Section 504.

VI. WITHDRAWAL

It is the responsibility of the student to withdraw from the course due to schedule or personal complications. Failure to drop after terminating attendance will result in an F at the end of the semester. Withdrawal deadline to receive a W is **NOVEMBER 27**.

VII EXPECTATIONS

Class attendance: Attendance of every class will enhance your comprehension and appreciation of the material in the text books. Be on time for every class. Tardiness disrupts everyone. Please turn off cell phones or put them on silent.

Reading Assignments: Bring relevant text books to every class. Read all assignments prior to date in syllabus. Keep notes from reading, lecture, and class discussion. These will be helpful in writing the papers.

Discussion: All students are encouraged to participate in discussion, whether in agreement or disagreement with texts or fellow students.

VIII REQUIREMENTS

Writing Assignments: Each student will write FOUR papers (college quality). Each paper will analyze two short or one longer myth from each of the major topics listed in the Schedule below. Each paper must **consider the social and cultural context** for the myths chosen. Be sure to **consider the value system** being promoted in each myth. Comparison and contrast is recommended for discussion purposes only, not to subordinate one myth to another as “true” or “false”. For each myth ask yourself, *what is being taught to the viewer or listener about life, god, morals, customs, or beliefs*. Put yourself in the mind of the original audience as much as possible. Be sure to **incorporate any art** relevant to the selected myths

Paper 1 & 2: Cosmic Myths: Choose a myth on creation or flood (Pap 1), then Afterlife or Apocalypse. Discuss one “Truth” and one “proof” in the myth. Discuss how these stories order and organize the original society. Then choose a second audience to discuss their reaction to the same “Truths” or “Proofs” of the myth.

Paper 3: Myths of the Gods: Choose one god from two societies and discuss how their powers benefit each society. Compare how they function in each society. What powers do they have and why is that important to the people? What “Truth” do the stories teach? Would they work for another audience? What replaced them?

Paper 4: Hero Myths: Choose a hero type or episode to discuss their “heroic” deed and why it was so important to the original society. Explain any sacred place or object associated with the hero. What “Truth” comes from the hero’s role to the society? Would the hero appeal or disgust another audience? Why?

Exams: See dates below in the Schedule. Conflict with testing dates must be addressed prior to the test. Unexcused absences on test dates will result in a “0” test score.

IX. GRADE CRITERIA

The Final Grade will be based on the following percentages:

Four Papers	55% (Combined)
Three Exams	40% (Combined)
Attendance	05%

Numerical and letter grade scale: 100-90=A, 89-80=B, 79-70=C, 69-60=D, 59-0=F

X. TEXT BOOKS

Required: Leeming, David. The World of Myth. Oxford University Press, 1990
Campbell, Joseph. Myths to Live By.

Recommended: Willis, Roy. World Mythology. Henry Holt & Comp, 1993;
Sanders, The Epic Of Gilgamesh. (Or on Internet <http://www.aina.org/books/eog/eog.pdf>)

COURSE SCHEDULE

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Assignments</u>
Oct 8	Faculty Work Day. No classes (Thursday)
Oct 13	Introduction to Mythology <u>Leeming</u> : "Introduction" <u>WM</u> : "Intro" and "Great Themes"
	<i>PART I: COSMIC MYTHS</i>
Oct 13 & 15	<u>Leeming</u> : "The Creation", 15-40 <u>WM</u> : pp. 38, 49, 62, 70-74, 90, 94-95, 102, 193, 222-23, 237-238, 248, 262-63, 256-58, 284, 290-92, 302-303
Oct 20 & 22	<u>Leeming</u> : "The Flood", 41-66 <u>WM</u> : pp. 63, 91, 115, 130, 269, 280, 282
Oct 22 & 27	<u>Leeming</u> : "The Afterlife", 277-281 <u>WM</u> : pp 46, 48, 55, 61, 78, 96, 118, 146, 216, 240, 242, 260, 268
Oct 27	Paper 1: Creation Myth
Oct 29	<u>Leeming</u> : "The Apocalypse" 69-82 <u>WM</u> : 44, 67, 195
Nov 3	TEST 1: COSMIC MYTHS
	<i>PART II: MYTHS OF THE GODS</i>
Nov 3 & 5	<u>Leeming</u> : "God As Archetype", 117-134 <u>WM</u> : 51, 75-78, 84, 86, 94, 112, 133, 196-197, 216, 242, 244, 296
Nov 10 & 12	<u>Leeming</u> : "The Dying God", 136-152 <u>WM</u> : 42, 46, 61, 142, 196
Nov 10	Paper 2: Cosmic Myths
Nov 17 & 19	<u>Leeming</u> : "God's, Goddesses, and Lesser Spirits", 89-111, 167-185 <u>WM</u> : 49, 66, 82, 97-101, 108, 121-22, 134-36, 140-42, 144-146, 164, 168-71, 178-80, 192, 200-202, 216-219, 240, 246, 256-262, 274-277, 284-85, 294, 304-305 Tricksters : Leeming: 154-162 <u>WM</u> : 44-45, 227, 274-77, 285,297
Nov 24	Paper 3: Myths of the Gods
Nov 24	Test 2: GODS
Nov 26-29	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
Nov 27	Withdrawal deadline for W

Dates

Assignments

PART III: HERO MYTHS

- Nov 24 Leeming: “The Hero Cycle”, 203-208
- Dec 1 Leeming: “Conception, Birth, Childhood of Hero”, 209-220
WM: 76-78, 105-106, 147, 174
- Dec 3 & 8 Leeming: “The Journey Quest of the Hero”, 234-249
WM: 121-22, 148-56, 172-75, 182-85, 187-88, 204-205,
230-31, 306-307
- Dec 10 Leeming: “Rebirth, Return & Apotheosis of Hero”, 252-269
- Dec 10 Jackson, Epic of Gilgamesh. Gilgamesh as archetypal hero

Dec 10 Paper 4: Hero Myths

PART IV: PLACE AND OBJECT MYTHS

- Dec 15 Magic Places
Leeming: 285-291
WM: 86, 286-87
- Dec 15 Magic Objects
Leeming: 292-302
WM: 48, 154-56, 230-31, 306-307

Final Exam Schedule:

- Dec 17 Thursday, 1:00-2:50pm