

CLASS	DAY/TIME	ROOM
HUM2310 Sec 04	T/R 8:30-9:45am	1-372
HUM2310 Sec 10	T/R 10:00-11:15am	1-326

**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 **APRIL 1**.

## 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>
Jan 12	Introduction to Mythology <u>Leeming</u> : "Introduction" <u>WM</u> : "Intro" and "Great Themes"
<b>Jan 18</b>	<b>MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY</b>
	<b><i>PART I: COSMIC MYTHS</i></b>
Jan 12-19	<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
Jan 21& 26	<u>Leeming</u> : "The Flood", 41-66 <u>WM</u> : pp. 63, 91, 115, 130, 269, 280, 282
Jan 28 & Feb 2	<u>Leeming</u> : "The Afterlife", 277-281 <u>WM</u> : pp 46, 48, 55, 61, 78, 96, 118, 146, 216, 240, 242, 260, 268
<b>Feb 9</b>	<b>Paper 1: Creation Myth</b>
Feb 4 & 9	<u>Leeming</u> : "The Apocalypse" 69-82 <u>WM</u> : 44, 67, 195
Feb 11	<b>TEST 1: COSMIC MYTHS</b>
	<b><i>PART II: MYTHS OF THE GODS</i></b>
Feb 16 & 18	<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
Feb 23 & 25	<u>Leeming</u> : "The Dying God", 136-152 <u>WM</u> : 42, 46, 61, 142, 196
<b>March 3</b>	<b>Paper 2: Cosmic Myths</b>
March 1 & 3	<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 <b>Tricksters</b> : Leeming: 154-162 <u>WM</u> : 44-45, 227, 274-77, 285,297
<b>March 7-13</b> <b>March 15</b>	<b>SPRING BREAK</b> <b>Test 2: GODS</b>

Dates

Assignments

***PART III: HERO MYTHS***

March 17 Leeming: “The Hero Cycle”, 203-208

**March 22 Paper 3: Myths of the Gods**

March 22&24 Leeming: “Conception, Birth, Childhood of Hero”, 209-220  
WM: 76-78, 105-106, 147, 174

March 29&31 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

**April 1 Withdrawal deadline for W**

April 5 Leeming: “Rebirth, Return & Apotheosis of Hero”, 252-269

April 7 & 12 Jackson, Epic of Gilgamesh. Gilgamesh as archetypal hero

***PART IV: PLACE AND OBJECT MYTHS***

April 14 Magic Places  
Leeming: 285-291  
WM: 86, 286-87

**April 19 Paper 4: Hero Myths**

April 19 & 21 Magic Objects  
Leeming: 292-302  
WM: 48, 154-56, 230-31, 306-307

**Final Exam Schedule:**

April 26 Sec 10, (10am) Tuesday 10am-12:30

April 28 Sec 4 (8:30) Thurs 8:00-9:30am