

CLASS	DAY/TIME	ROOM
HUM2310 Sec E06	T/R 8:30-9:45AM	1-376
HUM2310 Sec E03	T/R 10:00-11:15AM	1-376

### ***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 **NOV 10**.

## 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;  
Willis, Roy. World Mythology. Henry Holt & Comp,

Recommended; 1993Campbell, Joseph. Myths to Live By.

Sanders, The Epic Of Gilgamesh. (Or on Internet <http://www.aina.org/books/eog/eog.pdf>)

## COURSE SCHEDULE

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Assignments</u>
Aug 29	Introduction to Mythology <u>Leeming</u> : "Introduction" <u>WM</u> : "Intro" and "Great Themes"
	<b><i>PART I: COSMIC MYTHS</i></b>
Aug 29- Sept 5	<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
<b>Sept 4</b>	<b>Labor Day</b>
Sept 7 & 12	<u>Leeming</u> : "The Flood", 41-66 <u>WM</u> : pp. 63, 91, 115, 130, 269, 280, 282
Sept 14-21	<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>Sept 21</b>	<b>Paper 1: Creation Myth</b>
Sept 26-28	<u>Leeming</u> : "The Apocalypse" 69-82 <u>WM</u> : 44, 67, 195
<b>Oct 3</b>	<b>TEST 1: COSMIC MYTHS</b>
	<b><i>PART II: MYTHS OF THE GODS</i></b>
Oct 5&10	<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
<b>Oct 10</b>	<b>Paper 2: Cosmic Myths</b>
<b>Oct 12</b>	<b>Faculty Work Day (Thursday)</b>
Oct 17-19	<u>Leeming</u> : "The Dying God", 136-152 <u>WM</u> : 42, 46, 61, 142, 196
Oct 24-31	<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>Nov 2</b>	<b>Test 2: GODS</b>

Dates

Assignments

***PART III: HERO MYTHS***

Nov 7	<u>Leeming</u> : “The Hero Cycle”, 203-208
<b>Nov 9</b>	<b>Paper 3: Myths of the Gods</b>
Nov 9&14	<u>Leeming</u> : “Conception, Birth, Childhood of Hero”, 209-220 <u>WM</u> : 76-78, 105-106, 147, 174
<b>Nov 10</b>	<b>Withdrawal deadline for W</b>
Nov 16&21	<u>Leeming</u> : “The Journey Quest of the Hero”, 234-249 <u>WM</u> : 121-22, 148-56, 172-75, 182-85, 187-88, 204-205, 230-31, 306-307
<b>Nov 22-26</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Break</b>
Nov 28	<u>Leeming</u> : “Rebirth, Return & Apotheosis of Hero”, 252-269
Nov 30 & Dec 5	Jackson, <u>Epic of Gilgamesh</u> . Gilgamesh as archetypal hero

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

<b>Dec 5</b>	<b>Paper 4: Hero Myths</b>
Dec 7	Magic Places <u>Leeming</u> : 285-291 <u>WM</u> : 86, 286-87
Dec 7	Magic Objects <u>Leeming</u> : 292-302 <u>WM</u> : 48, 154-56, 230-31, 306-307

**Final Exam Schedule:**

Dec 12	Tuesday, Sec 6, 8:00-9:30am
Dec 14	Thurs, Sec 3, 10:00-12:30pm