Course Title
HUM115 World Mythology: GT-AH2

Required Course Learning Outcomes:

1. Define the term “myth” and its functions.
2. Identify universal mythic archetypes.
3. Analyze global myths in connection to their historical contexts, belief systems, and cultural practices.
4. Interpret mythological motifs and archetypes in various media.
5. Evaluate the impact of myth on contemporary world culture.
6. Apply different methods of mythological interpretation.
7. Construct written artifacts using appropriate sources and documentation.

Course Description
Introduces an interdisciplinary approach to world mythology. The course illustrates and connects common themes in mythology to world religion, philosophy, art, literature, music, and contemporary culture using various interpretive methods. This is a statewide Guaranteed Transfer course in the GT-AH2 category.

The Colorado Commission on Higher Education has approved HUM115 for inclusion in the Guaranteed Transfer (GT) Pathways program in the GT-AH2 category. For transferring students, successful completion with a minimum C– grade guarantees transfer and application of credit in this GT Pathways category. For more information on the GT Pathways program, go to Guaranteed Transfer (GT) Pathways General Education Curriculum. For REQUIRED SYLLABUS information that is to be included on all syllabi starting Fall 2018 go to Required Course Syllabus Language.

This course is one of the Statewide Guaranteed Transfer courses.

- HUM115 Required Syllabus Info
CREDIT HOURS
3

SUGGESTED PREREQUISITE KNOWLEDGE
None

REQUIRED TOPICAL OUTLINE:

I. Cultural meaning and functions of world mythology

II. Global myths of creation and destruction

III. Universal mythic archetypes
    a. Goddess and fertility myths
    b. Trickster myths
    c. Hero myths

IV. Interpretive methodologies of world mythology

V. Mythological expression in contemporary global culture
    a. Literature
    b. Performing arts
    c. Visual arts
    d. Multimedia
The CCCOnline Course Policies page contains information about the student's role in the classroom, grading policies, and rights and responsibilities.
COURSE MATERIALS

Your textbook is available online as an eText. You do not need to purchase any additional materials. For specific information on refund policies and the optional black and white textbook available for purchase, please contact the CCCOnline bookstore (link opens in new window).

REQUIRED TEXT:


Recommended Texts:

An excellent open source for additional texts and background information can be found here: http://www.sacred-texts.com/index.html

The Perseus Digital Library has excellent source material for the Classical Period especially. Anyone interested in original texts and/or images of actual religious/mythological objects should search here:

http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/collections

DIGITAL MATERIALS ACCESS AND SETUP

This course uses Vital Source which integrates the eText directly into the course site.

- Visit the Vital Source Course Start page for details on first access of the materials.

To make sure your computer is set up correctly to access the eText and other digital content, review the Vital Source Technical Support page, also linked in the Student Support Module.
COURSE COMPETENCIES AND OUTCOMES

STUDENT COMPETENCIES

The competencies you will demonstrate in this course are as follows:

A. Define the term “myth” and its functions.
B. Identify universal mythic archetypes.
C. Analyze global myths in connection to their historical contexts, belief systems, and cultural practices.
D. Interpret mythological motifs and archetypes in various media.
E. Evaluate the impact of myth on contemporary world culture.
F. Apply different methods of mythological interpretation.
G. Construct written artifacts using appropriate sources and documentation.

REQUIRED TOPICAL OUTLINE

I. Cultural meaning and functions of world mythology
II. Global myths of creation and destruction
III. Universal mythic archetypes
   a. Goddess and fertility myths
   b. Trickster myths
   c. Hero myths
IV. Interpretive methodologies of world mythology
V. Mythological expression in contemporary global culture
   a. Literature
   b. Performing arts
   c. Visual arts
   d. Multimedia

The module outcomes that will permit you to demonstrate course competencies are:
Module 1
Outcomes
1. Discuss the universalities among myths, epics, and legends.
2. Demonstrate the impact that myth has on society and vice versa.
3. Discuss how perspectives such as feminist, Marxist, Jungian, etc. affect interpretations of myths.
4. Discuss the influence of geography on the creation and adaptation of myths.
5. Demonstrate how Egyptian myth and Babylonian myth reveal the values of their respective societies.
6. Analyze the interdisciplinary impact of these Middle Eastern myths.

Competencies
A, B, C
C, D, E
A, B, F
C, D, E, F, G
A, E, F
A, C, E
B, C, E, F

Module 2
Outcomes
1. Demonstrate how Persian myths reveal the changes to its belief system.
2. Discuss how myths evolve as one culture comes in contact with another.
3. Identify and discuss variants of "the hero."
4. Demonstrate how the Romans adapted Greek mythology to their own social values.
5. Analyze the interdisciplinary impact of Greek and Roman myths in contemporary society.

Competencies
B, C
A, C, E
B, C, D, G
C, D, F
C, D, E, F

Module 3
Outcomes
1. Explain how the hero acts as a bridge between humanity and the divine.
2. Discuss how oral recounting of myths changes when the stories are written.
3. Identify the elements of Indian mythology that figure prominently in modern life.
4. Compare the actions of the gods in the Far Eastern myths with those of the early Mediterranean civilizations.
5. Discuss how immortality is viewed in mythology and how it is represented in different cultures.

Competencies
B, D
C, F
C, E, F
A, C, F
C, F

Module 4
Outcomes
1. Explain why revenge and fate play such vital roles in Norse myths.
2. Discuss how the severe conditions of Northern Europe impact the constructions of the myths.
3. Recognize the influential motifs of Norse mythology on film and literature.
4. Discuss the use of humor in myths and sagas.

Competencies
C, F
C, F
D, E
C, F
Module 5

Outcomes
1. Describe the importance of role of dreams and imagination within the myths themselves.
2. Evaluate the cohesion in the values of African mythology despite the variations in the myths.
3. Discuss the African hero and the close relationship the trickster god gods played in other cultures.

Competencies
- C, F
- C, E, F, G
- C, F

Module 6

Outcomes
1. Analyze how heroic characters and tricksters impact the construction of myths.
2. Recognize the manner in which a myth both created justification for changes in society and supports changes.
3. Discuss the importance of the sacred number four for the Navajo.
4. Examine how contemporary stories may operate in the same fashion as older myths.

Competencies
- B, F
- D, E, F
- C, E, F
- A, E, F
**Grading & Participation**

**Methods:**

Evaluation includes a combination of discussion participation, assignments, and other evaluation. Rubrics will be provided for assignments and discussions.

**Grading Policies:**

Mark the unit due dates on your calendar for this class. You may submit assignments AHEAD of schedule. Late assignments may be accepted. Late assignments will not be accepted without prior approval.

**Late Work:** Late essays may be submitted for up to two weeks after their due dates, but a late penalty will be applied. The penalty for submitting late work is 5% off for each day after the assignment is due.

Late essays must be submitted to the relevant Assignment folder, and may not be submitted via email. Note that late essays may not be graded until the end of the semester. Note also that no late essays will be accepted during the final week of the course, or after the course has closed, without exception.

**Emergencies:** In the rare event that you cannot submit a particular assignment due to a true emergency (e.g., a serious medical problem), please contact me in advance of the assignment deadline, so that we can discuss strategies for completing the assignment. Please be prepared to provide concrete documentation of your situation, and please note that emergencies are considered only when they are conveyed to me in advance of the assignment being due.

**Summary of Grading:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discussions (14 @ 15 points each)</td>
<td>210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes (6 @ 30 points each)</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignments (2 @ 50 points each)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Project</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extra Credit Discussion (up to 20 points)</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>560</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grading Scale**

A = 90 to 100%  
B = 80 to 89%  
C = 70 to 79%  
D = 60 to 69%  
F = 59% and below

**Discussions**

There are 15 discussions, which require an initial posting and reply postings to classmates. Evaluation of the postings will be in accordance with the discussion rubric.
ASSIGNMENTS

There are two written assignments, an Annotated Bibliography and a Critical Assessment, that provide preparation for the Final Project. Each assignment will be assessed by the appropriate rubric.

QUIZZES

Six quizzes, at 30 points each, have multiple choice, true/false and short answer essay questions.

EXTRA CREDIT

There is a single optional project available in the discussion forum, worth up to 20 points.
The Schedule is subject to change as needed.

This page summarizes all of the graded assignments, exams, and reading assignments for the course. If you want, you can print it out and post it somewhere handy.

All assignments are described in detail on the module assignment pages. If you have questions check there and/or send me an e-mail.

This course is not self-paced and is not open-exit. All assignments, papers, quizzes, discussions, etc., are to be completed by no later than midnight of the due date.

NOTE: Important CCCOnline semester dates (e.g., drop/withdraw/term end) appear on the CCCOnline calendar.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module 1</th>
<th>Reading/Assignments/Exams</th>
<th>Due Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Readings:</strong></td>
<td>Introduction pp xiii-xxi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Readings:</strong></td>
<td>The Enuma Elish</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Readings:</strong></td>
<td>Osiris, Isis, and Horus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recommended additional readings:</strong></td>
<td>Gilgamesh</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Explorations:</strong></td>
<td>What is Mythology?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Explorations:</strong></td>
<td>Language of Mythology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Explorations:</strong></td>
<td>Archetypes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Explorations:</strong></td>
<td>Floods and Pyramids</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Explorations:</strong></td>
<td>Myths and Rituals</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Discussions:</strong></td>
<td>Student Introductions (ungraded)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Discussions:</strong></td>
<td>What is Mythology? (9/8)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Discussions:</strong></td>
<td>Egyptian and Babylonian mythology (9/15)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Quiz</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module 2</th>
<th>Reading/Assignments/Exams</th>
<th>Due Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Readings:</strong></td>
<td>Esfandyar, the Prince Who Would Be King</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Readings:</strong></td>
<td>The Ages of Man</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Readings:</strong></td>
<td>The Iliad</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Readings:</strong></td>
<td>Medea</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Readings:</strong></td>
<td>The Aeneid</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recommended additional readings:</strong></td>
<td>Demeter and Persephone</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recommended additional readings:</strong></td>
<td>Pyramus and Thisbe</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Explorations:</strong></td>
<td>The Fertile Crescent and the Persian Empire</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Explorations:</strong></td>
<td>Zoroaster</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• Greek society
• Greek Mythology
• The Iliad
• The Roman World
• The Aeneid

Discussions:
• Persian mythology (9/28)
• Greek mythology (9/28)
• Roman mythology (10/5)

Quiz
Annotated Bibliography

**MODULE 3**

*Reading/Assignments/Exams*

Readings:
• The Ramayana
• Kotan Utunnai
• Chi Li Slays the Serpent

Recommended additional readings:
• The Taming of the Sun
• The Creation Cycle

Explorations:
• India’s View of the World
• Hindu Mythology
• The Ainu
• Shinto and Japan

Discussions:
• Indian mythology (10/12)
• Far East mythology (10/19)

Quiz 5

**MODULE 4**

*Reading/Assignments/Exams*

Readings:
• The Ages of the World
• King Arthur
• The Creation, Death, and Rebirth of the Universe
• The Theft of Thor’s Hammer
• Sigurd the Volsung

Recommended additional readings:
• Beowulf
• Dagda the Good

Explorations:
• Ireland and the Supernatural
• Barbarians: the Germanic tribes and the Norsemen
• Valhalla and Ragnarok

Discussions:
• Irish mythology (10/26)
• Norse mythology (11/2)
• Germanic mythology (11/9)

Quiz
Critical Analysis Essay


**MODULE 5**

**Reading/Assignments/Exams**

Readings:
- The Creation of the Universe and Ife
- Gassire’s Lute
- The Quarrel between Sagbata and Sogbo

Recommended additional readings:
- Bakaridjan Kone
- The Origin of Life and Fire

Explorations:
- Traditional African Society
- Yoruba
- Soninke and the Empire of Ghana

Discussions:
- Nigerian mythology (11/17)
- Ghanian mythology (11/23)

Quiz

**Due Dates**

11/23

---

**MODULE 6**

**Reading/Assignments/Exams**

Readings:
- The Creation
- The Children of the Sun
- The Emergence
- Caught by a Hair-String
- Quetzalcoatl

Recommended additional reading:
- The Woman Who Fell from the Sky
- Sedna

Explorations:
- South American Civilization
- The Andes and the Sky
- Native American Groupings
- Rituals and Myths
- Myths in Modern Life

Discussions:
- Native American mythology (11/30)
- Modern mythology (12/13)

Final Project

Quiz

**Due Dates**

12/13

Last modified 11/01/2019 ACE