

HUM 115.601 Introduction to World Mythology 10740 GT-AH2

Red Rocks Community College: Summer 2017

Lakewood Campus: Room 2307

Fridays, June 23rd, 30th, and July 7th, 5:00pm – 10:00pm

Saturdays, June 24th, July 1st, and 8th, 8:00am – 5:30pm, lunch: noon—1:00pm

Instructor: Heather Kroger

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Course Description

Through a study of myths from around the world and throughout the ages, this course introduces students to the history of ideas that have supported, developed, and created cultures. It emphasizes connections among diverse cultures, including European and non-European, from the Ancient World to the current era.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Define the term “myth” and describe the different types of myths and their functions.
2. Analyze and interpret myth in connection to its historical context, world view, and psychological aspects.
3. Evaluate mythical motifs and characters in different media: literature, art, film, music, and advertisements.
4. Evaluate the impact of myth on contemporary life and thought.
5. Analyze using different methods of mythological interpretation.
6. Compare and contrast myths including, but not limited to, classical, European, Asian, African, Native American, and contemporary myths.

LEAP Essential Learning Outcomes for Colleges and Universities

1. Knowledge of Human Cultures and the Physical and Natural World
 - Through study in the sciences and mathematics, social sciences, humanities, histories, languages, and the arts
 - Focused* by engagement with big questions, both contemporary and enduring
2. Intellectual and Practical Skills, including
 - Inquiry and analysis • Critical and creative thinking • Written and oral communication • Information literacy • Teamwork and problem solving
 - Practiced* extensively, across the curriculum, in the context of progressively more challenging problems, projects, and standards for performance
3. Personal and Social Responsibility, including
 - Civic knowledge and engagement—local and global • Intercultural knowledge and competence • Ethical reasoning and action • Foundations and skills for lifelong learning
 - anchored* through active involvement with diverse communities and real-world challenges
4. Integrative Learning, including
 - Synthesis and advanced accomplishment across general and specialized studies
 - Demonstrated* through the application of knowledge, skills, and responsibilities to new settings and complex problems

Required Text and Reading

- *Introduction to Mythology: Contemporary Approaches to Classical and World Myths*, 4th edition, Eva M. Thury & Margaret K. Deviney, Oxford University Press (the *Now Playing* supplemental is not required)
- All material found on D2L: videos, articles, PDFs, website links, etc.

Assignments

This is a weekend intensive in which a regular 15-week semester is to fit into a shortened time period—3 weekends. This means the reading load will be heavier. The reading is necessary as this is the form ancient myths are presented to us today in their most original format possible (translated into English, that is). Be prepared to read a lot and at a quick pace. Take notes as you read. Check out this website for tools to help you manage the intense workload:

<http://www.rrcc.edu/learning-skills>

Participation (60 points)

Because of the nature of the weekend intensive, participation is of utmost importance. Not only will active, sustaining contribution be expected, it is required. Speaking up once will not equal a passing grade. Failure to prepare for classes will produce a drop in participation grade. In addition to vocal contributions, the participation grade will include in-class activities. These activities must show comprehension of and genuine effort in application of course content. Activities will be diverse: short on-the-spot essays, quizzes, flash-presentations, etc.

Final Paper (40 points)

D2L will have more information regarding this assignment. For now, know that you are expected to write a college level academic paper complete with thesis, support, and conclusion. MLA formatting is required. Citations and bibliography will be expected. This paper is expected to demonstrate the course objectives listed in the beginning of this syllabus.

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	0-59

A Chance to Get Published

Claro, RRCC's scholarly journal, publishes students' high-quality academic work. Publications look great on scholarship applications and resumes. If you do superior work on any certain assignment for this class, ask me if I would consider submitting it to *Claro*! *Claro* accepts any type of academic work, including research papers, charts/graphs, reports, reviews, websites, videos, etc. Go to www.rrcc.edu/claro to view online versions of the last two editions!

POLICIES

Recording Class

Except where a student is entitled to make an audio or video recording of class lectures and discussions as an educational accommodation determined through the student's interactive process with college disability services, a student **may not** record lectures or classroom

discussions unless written permission from the class instructor has been obtained and all students in the class as well as guest speakers have been informed that audio/video recording may occur. A student granted permission to record may use the recording only for his or her own study and may not publish or post the recording on YouTube or any other medium or venue without the instructor's explicit written authorization.

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the learning resources and support programs on each campus to arrange for accommodations and support services.

Academic Honesty

All assignments turned in must be the student's own independent work. Academic dishonesty includes plagiarism and cheating, as well as knowingly allowing someone else to cheat. Red Rocks Community College considers plagiarism as a serious violation of the Student Code of Conduct. Such conduct is subject to disciplinary action and may include failing the assignment, lowering of one's final grade by one letter grade, or failing the course. Plagiarism applies to any material written by someone else. It includes lyrics, computer code, scientific charts and graphs, and materials on websites via Internet. When using information from sources, it is required to properly cite and document the sources utilized. Students should consult their student handbook or their instructor if there are questions regarding academic honesty. When citing, follow the MLA standard for this class.

RRCC Disability Statement

ADAAA (Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973: Red Rocks Community College is committed to access for students with disabilities. If you are a student with a disability and need assistance or are interested in requesting accommodations, please contact Accessibility Services. Faculty are not obligated to provide accommodations without proper notification by Accessibility Services and accommodations are not retroactive. Students may contact the Access staff by telephone or email to make an intake appointment at 303-914-6733, 720-372-1591(VP) or [Accessibility Services](mailto:access@rrcc.edu) access@rrcc.edu. Accessibility Services is located in Suite 1182 at the Lakewood campus. More information is available at the [Accessibility Services website](http://www.rrcc.edu/accessibility-services): www.rrcc.edu/accessibility-services.

Mandatory Reporting Statement

Our College is committed to preserving a safe and welcoming educational environment for all students. As part of this effort, I have an obligation to report certain issues relating to the health and safety of campus community members. I must report to the appropriate College officials any allegation of discrimination or harassment. Sexual misconduct, which includes sexual harassment, non-consensual sexual contact, non-consensual sexual intercourse, and sexual exploitation, is considered a form of discrimination.

In addition to reporting all discrimination and harassment claims, I must report all allegations of dating violence or domestic violence, child abuse or neglect, and/or credible threats of harm to yourself or others. Such reports may trigger contact from a College official who will want to talk with you about the incident that you have shared. In almost all cases, it will be your decision whether you wish to speak with that individual. If you would like more information, you may reach the Title IX/EO Coordinator: **D. Arnie Oudenhoven, Executive Director of Human Resources/Title IX Administrator, 303-914-6298** or [Arnie Oudenhoven](mailto:arnie.oudenhoven@rrcc.edu) (arnie.oudenhoven@rrcc.edu)

Reports to law enforcement can be made at the Red Rocks Campus Police Department behind the Welcome Desk at the Main Entrance or [RRCC Dispatch](mailto:rrpd.dispatch@rrcc.edu) (rrpd.dispatch@rrcc.edu) at 303-914-6394.

If you would like a confidential resource, please contact **Deborah Houser, Assistant Director of Human Resources/Deputy Title IX Administrator, 303-914-6224** or [Deborah Houser](mailto:deborah.houser@rrcc.edu) (deborah.houser@rrcc.edu)

Further information may be found on the college [Human Resources website](http://www.rrcc.edu/human-resources/sexual-misconduct):
<http://www.rrcc.edu/human-resources/sexual-misconduct>.

Student Handbook

The [RRCC Student Handbook](http://www.rrcc.edu/student-life/handbook) is your most current source of dates, resources, contacts, and policies: <http://www.rrcc.edu/student-life/handbook>.

Respectful Classroom Standards

Higher education classrooms may be thought of as laboratories for life. We will practice respect and tolerance of others from diverse backgrounds and learn from each other. To create a safe learning community, we hold each other to the standard of respect: treating others as we would like to be treated.

At RRCC, our basic code of conduct reflects the value for civility. Our student handbook says:

Students enrolling at Red Rocks Community College (Red Rocks) assume an obligation for conduct compatible with college objectives. College regulations are based on respect for the rights of others and observance of civil law and current moral standards. Red Rocks students have all the rights and responsibilities of other citizens and are subject to the same federal, state, and local laws as non-students. As members of the college community, students are also subject to the rules and regulations of the college.

Red Rocks exists for the transmission of knowledge, development of occupational skills, and growth of students. Freedom of inquiry and expression are indispensable to the attainment of these goals. As members of the college community, students are encouraged to develop the capacity for critical judgment and to engage in a sustained search for truth.

Within a safe environment, freedom of expression is possible. Safety is the responsibility of each member of the community. A safe environment depends on each individual exercising respect and expecting the same from others. Respect is demonstrated by:

- Being on time, prepared for class, and staying throughout the entire class period.
- Keeping an open mind. Listening carefully without interrupting, with the goal of understanding the perspective of others.
- Being willing to share your opinions and insights verbally and non-verbally in a manner that shows thoughtfulness about the cultural and social sensitivities of others.
- Asking questions that are relevant to the topic and meant to elicit deeper understanding.
- Keeping electronic tools that are not required for class participation turned off and put away.
- Taking care of personal hygiene and dressing in a way that is not distracting to others.
- Addressing problems or concerns in a timely and courteous fashion, offering solutions or ideas for change.

Potential Adjustments

I reserve the right to make amendments to the class syllabus and schedule at any time and at my discretion. Students will be notified of changes in a timely and reasonable manner. Changes will be announced through Desire2Learn (D2L). It is a student's responsibility to inquire of any possible adjustments he/she does not understand by logging into D2L, contacting a classmate, or asking the instructor.

Class Schedule

To prepare for the first weekend of classes, begin by watching Crash Course YouTube Mythology #1: <https://youtu.be/HeX6CX5LEj0?list=PL8dPuuaLjXtNCG9Vq7vdyJytS-F-xGi7>. Follow up with reading chapters 3 (Greece), 4 & 12 (Rome), 6 (Mesopotamia), 8 (Native American) and 9 (Africa). This will begin our Creation/Destruction weekend. Take careful notes outlining background information designed to assist reading for comprehension. As you read each story, jot down observations made, thoughts you have (things the story may remind you of), and any questions that arise for you. You are not expected to know everything about these stories. You are to read them with a beginner's mind. We will unpack them together in class. Your observations and questions will guide us through the process. There are 7 geographic regions we will be exploring in these chapters. Perhaps reading one region a night would be a gentle approach.

Friday, June 23rd
Creation
“Campfire” time
Screening

Saturday, June 24th
Creation/Destruction/Creation
Lunch, noon—1:00
TBD

To prepare for the next weekend of classes, methodologies (ways to analyze and interpret), read in the textbook the following chapters in the order listed: Ch 34 (Jungian Psychoanalysis) + “Inanna and Dumuzi” PDF on D2L under module for second weekend; Ch 15 (Joseph Campbell) + ch 16 (Gilgamesh); Ch 23 (Structuralist Anthropology) + ch 24 (Raven) + ch 26 (Prometheus). I am expecting a *lot* of questions following these readings. Remember, this is an introductory course; no one is expecting you to master these methods from one reading.

Friday, June 30th
Methods

Saturday, July 1st
Methods
Lunch, noon—1:00
Screening

To prepare for our last weekend of classes, read in the textbook the following chapters: Ch 18, 19, 20, 25, 29, and 30.

Friday, July 7th
Goddesses

Saturday, July 8th
Heroes and Tricksters
Lunch, noon—1:00
TBD

****Final Paper due in dropbox by July 12th, 11:59pm****