

WORLD MYTHOLOGY HUM115.601 33868 GT-AH2

Spring 2019 Syllabus

Friday, 5:00pm – 10:00pm, April 5th, 12th, and 19th in room 2533

Saturday, 8:30am – 4:30pm, April 6th, 13th, and 20th in room 2533

CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: Heather Kroger

Office Hours: by appointment only

Email: heather.kroger@rrcc.edu

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK/COURSE MATERIALS

Introduction to Mythology: Contemporary Approaches to Classical and World Myths, 4th ed., Eva M. Thury and Margaret K. Devinney, Oxford University Press (the *Now Playing* supplemental is not required), ISBN 978-0190262983

D2L learning management system

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Introduces students to a multidisciplinary approach to world mythology. Common themes are illustrated and connected to religion, philosophy, art, literature, music, and contemporary culture. In addition, students will study various ways of interpreting myth.

Credit hours: 3

COURSE PREREQUISITE/CO-REQUISITES

CCR 092 or CCR 094 (grade of C or higher) or equivalent placement scores.

GT PATHWAYS STATEMENT, CONTENT CRITERIA, COMPETENCIES, AND STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

GUARANTEED TRANSFER (GT) PATHWAYS COURSE STATEMENT:

The Colorado Commission on Higher Education has approved HUM 115 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. [More information on the GT Pathways program.](#)

CONTENT CRITERIA FOR GT-AH2 COURSES (ARTS & EXPRESSION)

Students should be able to respond analytically and critically to literary or media works, by addressing all of the following:

- Specific era(s)
- Specific culture(s)
- Themes or major concepts
- Attitudes and values

COMPETENCIES AND STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES ASSOCIATED WITH GT-AH2 COURSES

GT PATHWAYS COMPETENCY: WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

Competency in written communication is a student's ability to write and express ideas across a variety of genres and styles. Written communication abilities develop over time through layered, interactive, and continual processes and experiences across the curriculum.

- Student Learning Outcome (SLO 2): Develop Content
 - Create and develop ideas within the context of the situation and the assigned tasks(s).
- Student Learning Outcome (SLO 4): Use Sources and Evidence
 - Critically read, evaluate, apply, and synthesize evidence and/or sources in support of a claim.
 - Follow an appropriate documentation system.

GT PATHWAYS COMPETENCY: CRITICAL THINKING

Competency in critical thinking addresses a student's ability to analyze information and ideas from multiple perspectives and articulate an argument or an opinion or a conclusion based on their analysis.

- Student Learning Outcome (SLO 2): Utilize Content
 - Evaluate the relevance of context when presenting a position.
 - Identify assumptions.
 - Analyze one's own and others' assumptions.
- Student Learning Outcome (SLO 5): Understand Implications and Make Conclusions
 - Establish a conclusion that is tied to the range of information presented.
 - Reflect on implications and consequences of stated conclusion.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

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 different methods of mythological interpretation.
6. Compare and contrast myths including, but not limited to, classical, European, Asian, African, Native American, and contemporary myths.

TOPICAL OUTLINE

We'll discuss:

- What is myth?
- What is the meaning and function(s) of myth(s)?
- Ways to understand myth, such as
 - Literary analysis
 - As providing ethnographic evidence
 - Psychological interpretation
- Creation and Destruction myths
 - Common features of creation and destruction myths
 - Comparisons and contrasts between creation and destruction myths of various cultures
 - Analyses of elements in storytelling and their relating to cultural values
- Hero myths and their interpretations
 - The psychoanalytical methods of Freud, Jung, and Rank

- Joseph Campbell and the Hero's Journey
- Comparisons and contrasts between hero myths of various cultures
- Mythological expressions through
 - Literature
 - Art and architecture
 - Film
 - Music
 - Other relevant media, and
 - The impact of myth and contemporary culture

COURSE REQUIREMENTS / EXPECTATIONS

Everything is designed to point to the above objectives and outcomes in having you demonstrate your ability to pursue and retain knowledge, comprehend the various significant levels of acquired knowledge (analyzing and identifying their various components), evaluate the significance of the knowledge, synthesize ideas from multiple sources, and apply what is learned to work and life situations.

Readiness to learn means that you will come to class with questions and insights and prepared to discuss the relevance and application of course materials.

I have found that students who do well in my class also:

- Read the assigned material before class.
- Bring thoughtful questions to class for discussion.
- Prepare for the assessments in study groups.
- Take notes during class discussions and while completing reading assignments

GRADING POLICY

METHODS OF EVALUATION / GRADING / ASSESSMENT

- In Class Assessments: For each class session there are end-of-class prompts to be answered. For these, attendance will be required. There will be 6 total worth 10 points each. All prompts are to be addressed thoroughly using clear written communication to showcase critical thinking.
- Project: A cumulative Course Objectives exercise to showcase the GT Pathways Competencies. More information regarding the project will be provided in class and on D2L, including rubric. (60 points)

GRADING SCALE

In Class Assessments (6 x 10 = 60) + Project (60) = 120 points

- 108 - 120 = A
- 96 - 107 = B
- 84 - 95 = C
- 72 - 83 = D
- 0 - 71 = F

IMPORTANT DATES

STUDENTS: PLEASE VERIFY THE SPECIFIC DROP AND WITHDRAW DATES FOR THIS COURSE IN YOUR “[Detailed Student Schedule \(with Drop-Withdrawal Dates\)](#)” LINK IN THE ROCK, UNDER THE STUDENT TAB

(https://erpdnssb.cccs.edu/PRODRRCC/wt_student_sched.P_DisplayStudentSched)

DROP/CENSUS DATE (LAST DAY TO DROP WITH A REFUND): FEBRUARY 6TH

This is the last day you can remove yourself from this class without having to pay for the class and without the class showing on your permanent student record. **If you are considering dropping the class, please talk to your instructor first.** If you are on financial aid, you should also consult a financial aid advisor before dropping a class. All students are encouraged to see an academic advisor about how dropping may affect their goals.

WITHDRAW DATE (LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW WITH A “W”): APRIL 23RD

This is the last day you can remove yourself from this class and receive a “W” for the class instead of a grade. You are responsible for payment. **If you are considering withdrawing from the class, please talk to your instructor first.** If you are on financial aid, you should consult a financial aid advisor before withdrawing from a class. All students are encouraged to see an academic advisor about how withdrawing may affect their goals.

NO CLASS OCTOBER 16TH—FACULTY WORK DAY

SPRING BREAK: MARCH 25TH – 31ST

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance will be taken. Three late arrivals or early departures will equal an absence. Absences will be a half letter grade reduction. An excused absence is considered by individual situations, generally require documentation (doctor’s note, military leave notice, court documents of appearance, etc.), and, where planned, prior consultation with the instructor. It’s a weekend intensive where 15-weeks happens in 6 meetings. Do not be absent.

MAKE-UP WORK / LATE WORK

No late or missed work will be accepted. With proper documentation (doctor’s note, military leave notice, court documents of appearance, etc.) missed or late assignments will be considered on an individual basis and within a reasonable time frame (generally, one week and nothing after the last class of the semester). Stay in contact with the instructor should situations arise.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STATEMENT / ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Red Rocks Community College has clearly articulated its policies governing academic integrity and students are encouraged to carefully review the policy available on the [RRCC Academic Integrity website](#). Any deviation from these expectations will result in academic penalties as well as disciplinary action. The area of greatest potential risk for inadvertent academic dishonesty is plagiarism. Students should also read closely the PDF discussion of avoiding plagiarism that is included on the D2L.

CLASSROOM CONDUCT

The humanities can be personal in experience and bring things up that may be uncomfortable and difficult. Hence, engaging with the humanities begins and ends with respect. In order to learn, we must be open to the views of people different than ourselves. Please honor the uniqueness of your fellow classmates as well as of the various people we will learn about through the course content and appreciate the opportunity we have to learn from one another. Please

respect each other's opinions and refrain from personal attacks or demeaning comments of any kind. Finally, remember to keep confidential all issues of a personal or professional nature that are discussed in class.

There is adult content in myths that can be disturbing. Mythology is violent: There will be violence against women, against children, against parents, and against Others. Mythology depicts sexual content: Incest is seen in many myths; homosexuality may also appear. The subject of death is another topic often explored in mythology. Religion and ritual are also topics mythology covers, and requires an attitude of academic inquiry rather than intolerance. These topics will be discussed in class; you are invited and encouraged to speak privately with the instructor about any of the content.

RRCC SYLLABUS INSERT – REQUIRED AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

All students are required to be familiar with the information contained in the RRCC Syllabus Insert document. In addition to your instructor reviewing the required content in class, the RRCC SYLLABUS INSERT can be found as an announcement on all D2L landing pages (where you have access to all of your courses) and in the "Student Resources" pull-down menu.

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 reasonable and timely manner. Changes will be announced through Desire2Learn (D2L). It is a student's responsibility to inquire of any possible adjustments not understood by logging into D2L, contacting a classmate, or asking the instructor.

COURSE SCHEDULE

FRIDAY APRIL 5TH

- Introductions & Syllabus
- Methods: Psychoanalytic Criticism

SATURDAY APRIL 6TH

- Heroes and the Hero's Journey
- Mwindo (ch 21), Gilgamesh (ch 16), Rama (ch 18)
- Tricksters: Raven (ch 24), & Prometheus (ch 26)

FRIDAY APRIL 12TH

- Ritual and myth: Arthurian Legend: The Holy Grail (ch20)

SATURDAY APRIL 13TH

- Goddesses
- Demeter (ch 29), Isis (ch 30), Inanna (PDF)

FRIDAY APRIL 19TH

- Cosmogonic Stories (Creation and Destruction)
- Enuma Elish (ch 6), Native American (ch 8), African (ch 9), Hesiod (ch 3), Ovid (ch 12)

SATURDAY APRIL 20TH

- World Myths
- Popol Vuh (ch 11) and Norse (chs. 4, 7, & 19)