Instructor: Professor Amani Francis

Course Format: Distance Education

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Office: A 109

Office Hours: M/W 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

“Life has no meaning. Each of us has meaning and we bring it to life. It is a waste to be asking the question when you are the answer.”

~ Joseph Campbell

Personal Statement:

Welcome to Mythology and Folklore. This subject is one of my many passions, and I seek to connect the dots amongst cultures through very ancient, archetypical tales that are shared amongst these cultures. It is my hope that this course serves as a spring board for you to not only dig deeper into the ancient stories of our most primitive ancestors, but for you to also use these myths and folktales as a way to make connections in your own lives. Myth is a powerful medium, and by critically thinking through myth, you will be able to gain the most from these most magnificent tales.

Please take advantage of my posted office hours and feel free to stop by or contact me. Also, please be aware that you have the opportunity to work with tutors five days a week at the Alief, Katy and Spring Branch Campuses, and you may work with
tutors seven days a week via askonline. The contact information for each of the centers is listed below.

Additional Support:

The link to the Northwest Colleges Writing Centers is listed below. Please click on the link for the posted hours of each center.

http://northwest.hccs.edu/programs/english/writing-center/

Ask Online:  http://hccs.askonline.net

Alief Campus, Room B202, (713) 718-5700

Katy Campus, Room 321, (713) 718-5841

Spring Branch Campus, South Hall 703 (713) 718-5889

Course Prerequisites: ENGL 1301 or higher

Proctored Exams: None

Instructional Materials:

- Required Text:
  - ISBN-10: 076741957X
  - Edition: 1st
    - The textbook can be rented on amazon.com for $20.98 (due by 12/10/14)

HCC Policy Statements:

- Access Student Services Policies in the Student Handbook on the web @ http://www.hccs.edu/district/students/student-handbook
  - Attendance Policy: Page 3
  - Academic or Scholastic Dishonesty: Page 18
  - Repeating Courses (3-peaters): Page 5
  - Withdrawal Deadline: Page 4
  - ADA or Equal Education Opportunity: Page 16

- Access DE Policies on the web site:
  All students are responsible for reading and understanding the DE Student Handbook, which contains policies, information about conduct, and other pertinent tools you can use. To access the DE Student Handbook, click on the
link below or go to the DE page on the HCC website.

- The Distance Education Student Handbook contains policies and procedures unique to the DE student. Students should have reviewed the handbook as part of the mandatory orientation. The handbook contains valuable information, answers, and resources, such as DE contacts, policies and procedures (how to drop, attendance requirements, etc.), student procedures, technical support, and academic calendars. Refer to the DE Student Handbook by visiting this link:


**Instructional Methods:**

- Students have varied methods of learning based upon their own individual and unique learning styles. Consequently, I utilize a variety of instructional techniques to cater to the needs of all students. Instructional methods include lecture notes, discussion, collaborative group assignments, computer based assignments, and reflection assignments.

**Course Description:**

(Form of Literature) Prerequisite: ENGL 1301 – The study of one or more literary genres including, but not limited to poetry, fiction, drama, and film.

(Mythology and Folklore Specifically) - The study of mythologies of various cultures including Native American, African (diaspora), Middle Eastern, Indian, Greek, Roman, Chinese, Japanese, Vietnamese, Hawaiian, and Aboriginal. In this course, in addition to being able to recognize mythic metaphors, analogies, and importantly, the symbolic nature of myths, in reading this variety of myths and folktales, you will also analyze these works through discussion forums, blogs and written assignments. This course is designed around carefully planned writing assignments and thusly, requires substantial reading, writing, and research. (3 credits--Lecture)

**Core Objectives**

Given the rapid evolution of necessary knowledge and skills and the need to take into account global, national, state, and local cultures, the core curriculum must ensure that students will develop the essential knowledge and skills they need to be successful in college, in a career, in their communities, and in life. Through the Texas Core Curriculum, students will gain a foundation of knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world, develop principles of personal and social responsibility for living in a diverse world, and advance intellectual and practical skills that are essential for all learning.
Students enrolled in this core curriculum course will complete a research project or case study designed to cultivate the following core objectives:

- **Critical Thinking Skills**—to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- **Communication Skills**—to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
- **Personal Responsibility**—to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making
- **Teamwork** (Comp I, Comp II, and TW)—to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal
- **Social Responsibility** (Lit Only)—to include intercultural competency, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

Student proficiency in Communication Skills will be assessed as a formal written out-of-class essay, which is at least 3 pages long and which includes an oral presentation component as well as a visual component. Student proficiency in Critical Thinking will be assessed by a formal out-of-class essay assignment. Personal, Social Responsibility, and Teamwork will be assessed as part of long unit or major essay assignment, which will include assigned reading responses, pre-writing activities, multiple drafts, and group activities (such as peer review or group presentations). Student project grades will account for at least 5% of the final course grade.

**English Program Student Learning Outcomes**
*(Composition, Literature, Creative Writing, and Technical Writing)*

1. Write in appropriate genres using varied rhetorical strategies.
2. Write in appropriate genres to explain and evaluate rhetorical and/or literary strategies employed in argument, persuasion, and various genres.
3. Analyze various genres of writing for form, method, meaning, and interpretation.
4. Employ research in academic writing styles and use appropriate documentation style.
5. Communicate ideas effectively through discussion.

**English Literature Student Learning Outcomes:**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to accomplish the following:

1. Explain and illustrate stylistic characteristics of myths and folktales, including selections written by a diverse group of writers.
2. Connect representative works of myths and folktales to human and individual
values in historical and social contexts.

3. Demonstrate knowledge of critical texts relating to myths and folktales.

4. Analyze literary texts to identify myth based themes in modern cultural constructs.

5. Critique and Interpret representative literary works

Learning Objectives:

By the end of this course, the student should be able to:

- Demonstrate the ability to coherently analyze mythology and folklore by recognizing and describing the archetypes in representative works, identify examples of each, and evaluate the contribution of each through online discussions and other mediums and on essay exams.

- Apply the basic principles of critical thinking—evaluation, analysis, and synthesis—to identify themes in works of myth and folklore and to identify characteristics that show their place in literary, social, and historical periods.

- Identify and illustrate the significance of passages from the mythological literary works studied and extrapolate how they contribute to the development of modern day mythological themes in a variety of genres.

- Understand the fundamentals and techniques of the creation of myth and storytelling.

- Expand the scope, confidence, and creativity of interpreting mythological works through their representation in a variety of constructs including collective individual, socio-cultural, sexual, and political identity in myths.

Course/Computer Requirements:

- Use Microsoft Word for word processing
- Use askonline/campus Writing Center to submit your essays for reviewing and editing (optional unless noted by instructor)
- Use turnitin.com to submit your essays for grading and plagiarism prevention

Evaluation and Grading:

Evaluation will be based on class participation, homework, exams, and writing assignments. The point values and percentage breakdown is as follows:

Student Assessments:
Your final letter grade will be determined by totaling the percentages for each course activity as indicated below. Essays account for 70% of your average. Discussion accounts for 15% of your average, and all of your other assignments account for 15% of your average. You will research one significant ancient culture’s archetype in myths and folktales this semester and explain its relevance in modern times. As your midterm project, you will complete this assignment as a multimedia presentation (Prezi, PowerPoint, Jing, etc.) As your final exam, you will submit an essay that expands on the research completed for the midterm project.

**Mythological Analysis Essay** – In this 1000 minimum word essay, you will analyze another culture’s mythology by identifying the common themes, archetypes and motifs that are present in that culture. Please be certain to choose a culture other than your own so that the assignment can function as a cross-cultural learning experience.

**Midterm Multimedia Presentation** – In this multimedia presentation, you will use the interactive, multimedia medium of your choice to present information about an ancient culture’s archetype and explain its relevance in modern times. This visual presentation serves as an overview for your final essay. You must provide a Works Cited list at the end of the presentation.

**Final Documented Archetype Analysis** – In this 1500 minimum word essay, you will expand upon your midterm multimedia presentation in explaining an ancient culture’s myths and/or folktales and connecting these ideas to the twenty-first century. You will be required to use documented sources for this research-based essay.

**Reader Response Quizzes** – Periodically, you will be required to complete a reader response quiz wherein you critically evaluate a pre-assigned reading from the chapter in question. The minimum word count for each journal is 300 words.

**Discussions** – Each week there will be one to three discussion topics with a number of questions. Please keep in mind that you are expected to post in each topic. You DO NOT have to answer all of the individual questions. Please keep your answers succinct and to the point.

Keep in mind that is extremely important, in an online course format, that you listen to what your classmates have to say by carefully reading their responses before you respond. Please complete your discussions in a timely manner so that everyone can actively participate in this process. You will be graded on the quality of your responses, as well as how effective your response is in generating further critical thought.

**Assignment Percentage Breakdown:**

- Mythological Analysis Essay
- Midterm Multimedia Presentation
- Final Documented Archetype Analysis
*Please keep in mind that this percentage system is approximate and you may end up with more points if I add additional assignments throughout the semester. I reserve the right to modify assignments at my discretion.

**HCC Grading Scale:**

A = 100-90 4 points per semester hour
B = 89-80: 3 points per semester hour
C = 79-70: 2 points per semester hour
D = 69-60: 1 point per semester hour
59 and below = F 0 points per semester hour
IP (In Progress) 0 points per semester hour
W (Withdrawn) 0 points per semester hour
I (Incomplete) 0 points per semester hour
AUD (Audit) 0 points per semester hour

IP (In Progress) is given only in certain developmental courses. The student must re-enroll to receive credit. COM (Completed) is given in noncredit.
and continuing education courses. To compute grade point average (GPA), divide the total grade points by the total number of semester hours attempted. The grades "IP," "COM" and "I" do not affect GPA.

**Course Expectations:**

- It is important that you submit all of your assignments on time or your grade will be affected.
- Please check Eagle Online daily to review assignments for each day.

**Makeup Assignments:**

- You are expected to turn assignments in on time. Make-up work and/or late assignments WILL ONLY be accepted under extreme conditions.
- If you miss an essay or assignment deadline due to an extenuating circumstance, you must make it up within one week of the assignment due date.

**Policies:**

1. All written assignments must be typed, double-spaced and must conform to MLA manuscript format. Please review any handbook either print or online for sample MLA essays. Some examples will be provided.

2. You will post all essays into turnitin.com. This is not optional. If you do not post your essay into turnitin, you will not receive a grade for it. In order to use turnitin, you must first register. You will be provided with your turnitin information prior to the due date of your first essay.

3. You must participate in all Discussions and other class activities or your grade will be adversely impacted. You will not be able to participate in discussions once the due date has passed, as this component is an integral part of an online classroom environment.

**Turnitin Registration:**

In order to enroll into turnitin, you will need the below class ID and enrollment password. Please see below.

8448154   Class ID
32574     Enrollment password
Withdrawals:

Before withdrawing, please be aware of the possible penalties: 1) loss of your paid tuition; 2) a significant tuition/fee increase if you repeat a course three or more times (see “3-Peat Rule” below); and 3) a limit of no more than six total course withdrawals throughout your academic career in obtaining a baccalaureate degree. Also, please be aware that there is a cut-off date each semester or term for withdrawals.

If you consider withdrawing because you are not receiving passing grades, please consult with me before making a final decision. There are many opportunities and services available at the Katy campus to assist in your success, or there may be steps you could take that you may not be aware of to set you on a path to success.

International Students:

Receiving a W in a course may affect the status of your student visa. Once a W is given for the course (after you have submitted withdrawal form formally), it will not be changed to an F because of the visa consideration. Please contact the International Student Office at 713-718-8520, if you have any questions about your visa status and other transfer issues.

Repeat Course Fee:

Students who enroll for most CEU classes for three or more times will be charged an additional $50.00 per semester credit hour.

Academic Honesty (Plagiarism and Collusion):

The Student Handbook defines plagiarism as "the appropriation of another's work and the unacknowledged incorporation of that work in one's own written work offered for credit." It defines collusion as "the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work for credit." Both are serious forms of scholastic dishonesty. Possible punishments are "a grade of 0 or F on a particular assignment, failure in the course, and/or recommendation for probation or dismissal from the College System" (See Student Handbook). Students in my classes who plagiarize or collude in preparation of written work will receive an "F" on the assignment or in the course (for a repeat offense of plagiarism or collusion).

ADA Accommodations:

"Any student with a documented disability (e.g., physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the Disability Services Office at the respective college at the beginning of each semester. Faculty is authorized to provide only the accommodations requested by the Disability Support Services Office" (Official HCCS statement). If you need ADA accommodations, contact the office Mahnaz Kolaini (NW ADA...
counselor) or call 713-718-5422. Please give me a copy of your accommodations letter at the beginning of the semester.

Online Etiquette:

As your instructor, it is my responsibility to give you the necessary information you need to be successful in this course. This includes providing you with a syllabus, complete with a course calendar of due dates and assignments, and making sure you have any other tools you will need throughout our time together. I am always available if you need assistance as long as you communicate with me.

Your expectations of me mirror my expectations of you. Please make sure you are always respectful to your instructor (in any class) and your classmates by maintaining proper online decorum and etiquette. If you do this, you will find that your behavior is reciprocated, and respect will be given to all at all times throughout the term.

Academic Calendar:

- The web address link is: http://www.hccs.edu/district/events/academic-calendar/fall/

Course Calendar:

- Please keep in mind that this schedule is only a guideline. Please refer to your Eagle Online course for specific assignment details.
- This schedule is subject to change at my discretion. You will be made aware as soon as possible of any changes made. Please understand that I can make changes as I see fit and I will if it becomes necessary for me to do so.
- Please keep in mind it is your responsibility to read the pages indicated by class time on the corresponding date.
- Please refer to the above academic calendar for important dates.
### Mythology and Folklore Course Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Submissions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>8/25</td>
<td>Intro to Course&lt;br&gt;Ch. 1 Purposes and Definitions of Myths</td>
<td>Class Intros&lt;br&gt;Read Ch. 1, pp. 1-28&lt;br&gt;Discussion 1</td>
<td>Discussion 1 Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>9/1</td>
<td>Ch. 1 Continued&lt;br&gt;Discovering Myth in Indigenous Cultures</td>
<td>See supplemental links in Eagle Online&lt;br&gt;Complete Reader Response Quiz 1&lt;br&gt;Mythological Analysis Essay Assigned</td>
<td>Reader Response Quiz 1 Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>9/8</td>
<td>Ch. 2 Creation Myths</td>
<td>Read Ch. 2, pp. 32-57&lt;br&gt;Complete Discussion 2</td>
<td>Discussion 2 Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>9/15</td>
<td>Ch. 2 Continued</td>
<td>Read Ch. 2, pp. 58 – 78</td>
<td>Mythological Analysis Essay Assigned&lt;br&gt; Multimedia Midterm Assigned</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>9/22</td>
<td>Ch. 3 The Female Divine</td>
<td>Read pp. 102 – 121&lt;br&gt;Next, choose any one of The Female Divine Cultures and read that section only. For example, if I were to choose The Fire Goddess, I would only read pps. 122-131.</td>
<td>Interactive Assignment 1 Due&lt;br&gt;Mythological Analysis Essay Peer Review in Turnitin Due (Optional)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>Due Date</td>
<td>Chapter/Section</td>
<td>Reading Assignment</td>
<td>Assignment Due Date</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>9/29</td>
<td>The Female Divine and Modern Culture</td>
<td>Complete Reader Response Quiz 2</td>
<td>Reader Response Quiz 2 Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>10/6</td>
<td>Ch. 4 The Male Divine</td>
<td>Read pp. 195 – 207 Next, choose any one of The Male Divine Cultures and read that section only. For example, if I were to choose Enki and Ninhursanga, I would only read pps 220 - 226</td>
<td>Mythological Analysis Final Draft Due Interactive Assignment 2 Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>10/13</td>
<td>The Male Divine and Modern Culture</td>
<td>Complete Reader Response Quiz 3</td>
<td>Reader Response Quiz 3 Due Multimedia Midterm Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>10/20</td>
<td>Ch. 5 Trickster Myths</td>
<td>See supplemental links in Eagle Online Read pp. 247 - 253 Complete Discussion 3</td>
<td>Discussion 3 Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>10/27</td>
<td>Ch. 5 Continued</td>
<td>Read pp. 253 – 264 and pp. 274 – 300 Complete Reader Response Quiz 4</td>
<td>Reader Response Quiz 4 Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>11/3</td>
<td>Ch. 6 Sacred Places</td>
<td>Read pp. 320 – 328 Read pp. 331 – 346 Complete Discussion 4</td>
<td>Discussion 4 Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>11/10</td>
<td>Ch. 6 Continued</td>
<td>Read pp. 347 – 358 Interactive Assignment 3</td>
<td>Interactive Assignment 3 Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>11/17</td>
<td>Ch. 6</td>
<td>Read pp. 376 – 392</td>
<td>Discussion 5 Due</td>
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<td>Concluded Final Documented Archetype Analysis</td>
<td>Final Outline and Essay Objective Assigned Discussion 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>11/24</td>
<td>Final Documented Archetype Analysis</td>
<td>Begin Drafting Final Final Outline and Essay Objectives Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>12/1</td>
<td>Final Documented Archetype Analysis</td>
<td>Continue Drafting Final Final Documented Archetype Analysis Peer Review in Turnitin Due (Mandatory)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>12/8</td>
<td>Final Course Reflections, EGLS3</td>
<td>Submit Final Course Reflections Submit EGLS3 Survey Final Course Reflections Due EGLS 3 Survey Due</td>
<td></td>
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