

Department of English and Modern Languages
College of Arts & Sciences
Fall Semester, 201X

**Course Syllabus for
ENGL 315 Mythology**

General Education

This course counts toward the requirements in General Education for your degree program. General Education is an important part of your educational program at Pittsburg State University that has been designed to implement the following Philosophy of General Education:

General education is the study of humans in their global setting. The general education curriculum, therefore, acts as the heart of a university education by developing the capacities that typify the educated person and providing a basis for life-long learning and intellectual, ethical, and aesthetic fulfillment. General education examines the world around us and fosters an understanding of our interactions with the world and our place in the universe. General education celebrates the creative capacities of humankind and helps to preserve and transmit to future generations the values, knowledge, wisdom, and sense of history that are our common heritage.

Catalog Description

Mythology. 3 hours. A study of classical and non-classical myths and mythologies. Various theories of myth and its origins. Use of myth in literature, art, music, and film. Meets general education requirements.

Goals of General Education for this Course

This course meets the *Human Experience within a Global Context* element of General Education:

Understanding the diverse nature, meanings, or functions of creative endeavors through the study of literature, music, theater, visual arts, or related forms of expression helps us understand ourselves. Competency in this element means:

- *Applying* cultural concepts and/or methodologies in the analysis of literary, performing, visual, or other art forms;
- *Analyzing* how literature, performance, the visual arts, or other creative endeavors respond to and influence society and culture;
- *Analyzing* creative endeavors in a contextual framework, such as critical theory, aesthetics, philosophy of art, or rhetoric;
- *Demonstrating* concepts that characterize a polycentric view of the world in contrast to an ethnocentric perspective.

Course Goals

By the end of the course, you will be able to explain how various mythologies respond to and influence societies and cultures.

Nature of the Course

This upper division course in comparative mythology is designed for General Education. It will focus primarily on Classical Greek and Roman mythologies and will bring in other mythologies (Celtic, Hindu, Egyptian, Asian, African, Judeo-Christian, Native American, contemporary, etc.) to examine how they are similar and how they differ. The course will also examine the historical, cultural, and thematic backgrounds, as well as the nature, functions, and theories of myth.

Methods

The methods in this course will include lecture and class discussion and reading quizzes on assigned texts. The instructor may also assign student panel presentations about various cultures and their myths.

Assessment

The student's final grade for the course will be based on examinations, reading quizzes, and student panels (if used).