

Mythology & Folklore

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Mythology & Folklore

Mighty heroes. Angry gods and goddesses. Cunning animals. Since the first people gathered around fires, mythology and folklore has been used as a way to make sense of humankind and our world. Beginning with an overview of mythology and different kinds of folklore, students will journey with ancient heroes as they slay dragons and outwit gods, follow fearless warrior women into battle, and watch as clever monsters outwit those stronger than themselves. They will explore the universality and social significance of myths and folklore, and see how these are still used to shape society today.

COURSE METHODOLOGY

- This is an inquiry-based course. Students will generate knowledge through online readings, asynchronous discussions with students and their instructor, interactions with online tutorials, and online and hands-on simulations.
- The instructor will act as a guide, a facilitator, an events planner, and a resource advisor. He/she will always be available through course message.
- The student must actively construct and acquire knowledge by being intrinsically motivated to succeed. To succeed, students must participate and complete all readings and activities. This course requires the student's active participation.
- Both formal and informal assessment methods will be used in the course. Informal assessment will include an evaluation of the quality and timeliness of participation in class activities. Formal assessment may include multiple-choice quizzes, tests, discussion board participation, and written assignments. A final exam will be given at the end of the course.

COURSE PARTICIPATION OBJECTIVES

This course for which you are registered is a college preparatory, academically rigorous course that covers an entire semester's worth of material. As such, it is important that you adhere to the following guidelines as you manage your time and commit to successfully completing all required coursework:

1. The requirements for this course are equivalent to completion of minimum of 90+ hours of class instruction at a traditional on-site high school
2. Assignments must be submitted for each unit as they are completed so that the teacher may review and assess your performance. Do not hold your work, you must submit each unit's homework as it is completed, demonstrating weekly assignment completions



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3. You must log in regularly to your course to demonstrate continued participation, and completion of all course requirements, including assignments, assessments and discussion forums
4. You must complete your individual work and any incident of suspected cheating, plagiarism or collaboration on assignments violates the academic integrity expectations outlined at the time of your enrollment and can result in failure of the course or further action as deemed appropriate

Citizenship

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a responsible manner that reflects sound ethics, honor, and good citizenship. It is the student's responsibility to maintain academic honesty and integrity and to manifest their commitment to the goals of NUVHS through their conduct and behavior. Students are expected to abide by all NUVHS policies and regulations. Any form of academic dishonesty, or inappropriate conduct by students or applicants may result in penalties ranging from warning to dismissal, as deemed appropriate by NUVHS.

Communication

Throughout this course students will need to be in close contact with their instructor and fellow students. Students are expected to communicate via course message and electronic discussion boards. Therefore, students should plan on checking their course messages at least three times a week and participate in the discussion boards during the weeks they are live.

Instructors strongly encourage and welcome open communication. Clear, consistent, and proactive communication will ensure a successful experience in this course. It is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor immediately if and when a personal situation occurs that affects his/her performance in this class. Being proactive with communication will result in a quick solution to any problems that may occur.

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COURSE OUTLINE

Unit 1 – Introduction to Mythology & Folklore

Since prehistoric times, people have passed important stories down from generation to generation. Although cultures differed significantly throughout history, many of these oral traditions are similar. In fact, did you know that for most of the gods in Greek mythology, there are corresponding gods in Roman mythology, along with striking similarities in the stories? As time moved from prehistory (before writing) into history (the written age), these stories were written down so that others could learn from them and enjoy them. All of these stories—myths, legends, folktales, and fairy tales—serve a distinct purpose in the literature of the world.

Learning Objectives

- Identify characteristics of myths, folklore, folktales, and fairy tales.
- Describe the different types of myths.
- Identify the purposes of myths.
- Compare the different types of folklore: legends, folktales, and fairy tales.

Activities

Unit 1 Text Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 1 Online Lab Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 1 Discussion 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 1 Discussion 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 1 Quiz	Quiz	15 points

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Unit 2: Warrior Women

Throughout the ages, women have often been at the forefront of battles, fighting to protect their people, land, and way of life. These women warriors have been historically viewed as strong, proud women with unflinching courage. The tradition of women warriors is deeply rooted in ancient Greek, Celtic, and Norse mythology. This unit is organized so that you will be able to easily compare mythological warrior women with those from history. First, you will learn about the characteristics of women warriors in mythology and folklore. Next, you will read about the Amazons (mythological, then historical), then about Celtic goddesses and a warrior queen from the first century A.D. You will also learn of the deeds of Valkyries, the Norse warrior-goddesses, as well as a Norse warrior woman from around the year 1000. Finally, you will consider the effects of these on women in ancient societies.

Learning Objectives

- Identify the warrior women covered in the unit and their actions.
- Describe the characteristics of warrior women in history, mythology, legend, and folklore.
- Identify the time period in which the warrior women covered in this unit lived and/or gained importance.
- Describe the cultural and historical effects of mythological warrior women on the treatment of women in ancient Greek, Norse, and Celtic society.

Activities

Unit 2 Text Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 2 Online Lab Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 2 Discussion 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 2 Discussion 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 2 Quiz	Quiz	15 points



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Unit 3: The Heroic Monomyth in Mythology and Folklore

Since the beginning of time, humans have told stories of heroes around the hearth or camp fire at night. While each story is unique, it is also universal in its ability to speak to humankind and the need for a brave hero or heroine who embodies the ideals that define society. We need to believe we can take on something bigger than ourselves and win, and that good ultimately triumphs over evil. As we study the heroic monomyth, you will learn exactly what sets a hero apart from the rest of humanity. You will follow heroes on each leg of their journeys, and learn to differentiate between the types of stories used to tell of their brave deeds.

Learning Objectives

- Define what sets apart a hero from the rest of society.
- Identify types of hero and heroine stories.
- Describe the specific archetypes found in hero stories.
- Trace the stages of a Hero's Journey.
- Describe the cultural and historical importance of heroes and heroines.

Activities

Unit 3 Text Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 3 Online Lab Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 3 Discussion 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 3 Discussion 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 3 Quiz	Quiz	15 points

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Unit 4: The Roles of Animals

Animals have walked the earth since the dawn of time, and they have been woven into the human experience throughout the ages. Animals, both real and mythical, are an integral part of myths and legends from around the world. They play many different roles in literature. Animals may be gods or heroes, faithful companions or terrifying monsters. Sometimes they help humans succeed in a quest, and other times they act as clever tricksters and attempt to sabotage it. Often in myths and legends, the line between animals and people becomes blurred and one takes on the characteristics of the other. In this unit, you will explore the role of animals in myths and legends.

Learning Objectives

- Explain the varied roles animals play in legends and mythology.
- Identify creation stories where animals play an important role.
- Describe the symbolic nature of animals as portrayed in myths and legends.
- Trace transformation myths from around the globe.
- Identify modern myths and legends involving animals.

Activities

Unit 4 Text Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 4 Online Lab Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 4 Discussion 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 4 Discussion 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 4 Quiz	Quiz	15 points

Midterm Exam Objectives

- Review information acquired and mastered from this course up to this point.
- Take a course exam based on material from the first four units in this course (Note: You will be able to open this exam only one time.)

Midterm Exam Activities

Midterm Discussion	Discussion	5 points
Midterm Exam	Exam	50 points

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Unit 5: The Social Significance

Animals have walked the earth since the dawn of time, and they have been woven into the human experience throughout the ages. Animals, both real and mythical, are an integral part of myths and legends from around the world. They play many different roles in literature. Animals may be gods or heroes, faithful companions or terrifying monsters. Sometimes they help humans succeed in a quest, and other times they act as clever tricksters and attempt to sabotage it. Often in myths and legends, the line between animals and people becomes blurred and one takes on the characteristics of the other. In this unit, you will explore the role of animals in myths and legends.

Learning Objectives

- Explain the varied roles animals play in legends and mythology.
- Identify creation stories where animals play an important role.
- Describe the symbolic nature of animals as portrayed in myths and legends.
- Trace transformation myths from around the globe.
- Identify modern myths and legends involving animals.

Activities

Unit 5 Text Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 5 Online Lab Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 5 Discussion 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 5 Discussion 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 5 Quiz	Quiz	15 points

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Unit 6: Myths of the World

Animals have walked the earth since the dawn of time, and they have been woven into the human experience throughout the ages. Animals, both real and mythical, are an integral part of myths and legends from around the world. They play many different roles in literature. Animals may be gods or heroes, faithful companions or terrifying monsters. Sometimes they help humans succeed in a quest, and other times they act as clever tricksters and attempt to sabotage it. Often in myths and legends, the line between animals and people becomes blurred and one takes on the characteristics of the other. In this unit, you will explore the role of animals in myths and legends.

Learning Objectives

- Explain the varied roles animals play in legends and mythology.
- Identify creation stories where animals play an important role.
- Describe the symbolic nature of animals as portrayed in myths and legends.
- Trace transformation myths from around the globe.
- Identify modern myths and legends involving animals.

Activities

Unit 6 Text Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 6 Online Lab Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 6 Discussion 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 6 Discussion 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 6 Quiz	Quiz	15 points

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Unit 7: Comparative Mythology

Animals have walked the earth since the dawn of time, and they have been woven into the human experience throughout the ages. Animals, both real and mythical, are an integral part of myths and legends from around the world. They play many different roles in literature. Animals may be gods or heroes, faithful companions or terrifying monsters. Sometimes they help humans succeed in a quest, and other times they act as clever tricksters and attempt to sabotage it. Often in myths and legends, the line between animals and people becomes blurred and one takes on the characteristics of the other. In this unit, you will explore the role of animals in myths and legends.

Learning Objectives

- Explain the varied roles animals play in legends and mythology.
- Identify creation stories where animals play an important role.
- Describe the symbolic nature of animals as portrayed in myths and legends.
- Trace transformation myths from around the globe.
- Identify modern myths and legends involving animals.

Activities

Unit 7 Text Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 7 Online Lab Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 7 Discussion 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 7 Discussion 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 7 Quiz	Quiz	15 points

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Unit 8: Modern Myths & Legends

Animals have walked the earth since the dawn of time, and they have been woven into the human experience throughout the ages. Animals, both real and mythical, are an integral part of myths and legends from around the world. They play many different roles in literature. Animals may be gods or heroes, faithful companions or terrifying monsters. Sometimes they help humans succeed in a quest, and other times they act as clever tricksters and attempt to sabotage it. Often in myths and legends, the line between animals and people becomes blurred and one takes on the characteristics of the other. In this unit, you will explore the role of animals in myths and legends.

Learning Objectives

- Explain the varied roles animals play in legends and mythology.
- Identify creation stories where animals play an important role.
- Describe the symbolic nature of animals as portrayed in myths and legends.
- Trace transformation myths from around the globe.
- Identify modern myths and legends involving animals.

Activities

Unit 8 Text Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 8 Online Lab Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 8 Discussion 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 8 Discussion 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 8 Quiz	Quiz	15 points

Final Exam Objectives

- Review information acquired and mastered from this course up to this point.
- Take a course exam based on material from units five to eight in this course – the last four units.
(Note: You will be able to open this exam only one time.)

Final Exam Activities

Class Reflection Discussion	Discussion	10 points
Final Exam	Exam	50 points

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HOW YOU WILL BE GRADED

For critical thinking questions, there are no right or wrong answers. For example, a question on your thoughts on why you think people are shy is a pretty open-ended type of question. Grades will be based on the depth of personal insight you present. **Do not simply agree or disagree** with an insight question. We are looking for critical thinking and possibly a related personal experience with the question.

It is important to provide detailed answers for insight/opinion questions.

For review questions, you should be produce a more academic answer. For example, "What two categories are norms divided into?" This type of direct question requires a specific answer. Please use full sentences and proper grammar.

When submitting paragraphs, use these guidelines.

1. The first, second or last sentence contains the main idea and key words from the question or assigned topic.
2. Paragraph contains one to three explanatory sentences.
3. Paragraph contains two to four sentences about specific details related to question.
4. Details are colorful, interesting and appropriate.
5. Paragraph ends with a good closing sentence that refers to the main idea without repeating it.
6. Free of spelling and grammatical errors.

GRADE SCALE

The following grading scale will be used to determine your final letter grade.

Letter Grade	Percentage Earned
A	95%+
A-	90% - 94.9%
B+	87% - 89.9%
B	84% - 86.9%
B-	80% - 83.9%
C+	77% - 79.9%
C	74% - 76.9%
C-	70% - 73.9%
D+	67% - 69.9%
D	64% - 66.9%
D -	60% - 63.9%
F	59% and lower

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SUPPORT

At NUVHS you will have access to multiple support teams. Who you contact will depend on the questions you have. Always start by contacting your teacher through the Message Center in the course. Your teacher should be able to answer your question, but if they can't, then they will direct you to another support team. If you have questions about any of the course content, your grades, or course policies, you should contact your instructor.

For questions about your enrollment, transcripts, or general school-wide policies, you can contact **NUVHS Student Services** at info@nuvhs.org or by phone at 866.366.8847. For example, if you would like to withdraw from your course, you should contact Student Services. Please note that a refund for your course can only be obtained if you drop within the first seven days of enrolling in the course.

For help with login/password issues, or other technical issues specific to the Blackboard website, you can contact the team at [National University Blackboard Learn](#). They can also be reached by phone at (888) 892-9095.

EXPECTED SCHOOL-WIDE LEARNING RESULTS (ESLRs)

Engaged Learners

- Demonstrate self-directed learning skills such as time management, and personal responsibility through the completion of course requirements
- Develop an understanding of their own preferred learning styles to enhance their overall academic potential
- Incorporate effective and relevant internet and multimedia resources in their learning process to broaden their knowledge base

Critical Thinkers

- Effectively analyze and articulate sound opinions on a variety of complex concepts
- Illustrate a variety of problem-solving strategies that strengthen college preparation and workforce readiness
- Formulate a framework for applying a variety of technology and internet-based research to enhance information literacy and collaborative thinking

Effective Communicators

- Demonstrate awareness and sensitivity to tone and voice in multiple forms of communication
- Express concepts and ideas in a variety of forms
- Enhance communication skills through the use of media rich or other technology resources



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Global Citizens

- Appreciate the value of diversity
- Understand the range of local and international issues facing today's global community
- Demonstrate awareness of the importance of cultural sensitivity and social responsibility in the 21st century