

### Basic Course Information

Semester:	<b>Spring 2016</b>	Instructor Name:	<b>Dr. Michael Heumann</b>
Course Title & #:	<b>English 226 Humanities 226</b>	Email:	<b>michael.heumann@imperial.edu</b>
CRN #:	<b>20470</b>	Webpage (optional):	<b>imperial.blackboard.com</b>
Classroom:	<b>2900</b>	Office #:	<b>2791</b>
Class Dates:	<b>Feb 22-June 10</b>	Office Hours:	<b>M-T 4:30-5:30; W-R 2-3</b>
Class Days:	<b>Mondays</b>	Office Phone #:	<b>760-355-6553</b>
Class Times:	<b>6:30-9:40 PM</b>	Emergency Contact:	<b>760-355-6224</b>
Units:	<b>3.0</b>		

### Course Description

As the name implies, this class will provide an introduction to mythology from around the world. Specifically, the class will examine the many ways that common mythical themes can be found in diverse cultures throughout human history. Additionally, we will discuss the many ways that traditional myths live and flourish in our own time.

### Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Show a broad understanding of common structures and themes found in mythological texts from around the world (ILO1, ILO2, ILO5)
2. Demonstrate command of rules regarding plagiarism and academic ethics. (ILO3)
3. Access and interpret literary texts via various sources (drawn from internet, library catalogue, and electronic databases); and, evaluate publishers/authors. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4)
4. Analyze myths from different historical periods and different cultures. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3)

### Course Objectives

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

1. Differentiate between characteristics of oral and written traditions.
2. Evaluate traditional and contemporary texts for the functions of myth.
3. Analyze traditional and contemporary texts for mythic archetypes.
4. Evaluate a literary text for the elements of the hero's journey.
5. Assess the transformation of hero and society.
6. Examine common myths from around the world, including the sacred masculine and sacred feminine, the trickster, and the myths of sacred places.
7. Examine liminal events and situations, assessing the effect of these events and situations.
8. Compose essays and other written responses that evaluate and analyze mythic texts.

### Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

- Armstrong, Karen. *A Short History of Myth*. New York: Canongate, 2005.
- Bierlein, J.F. *Parallel Myths*. New York: Ballantine Books, 1994.

### Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

1. Attend every class session. Any student who misses the first class will be dropped. Students may be dropped at instructor discretion if they miss more than a week of class hours continuously. Please make arrangements with the instructor or a fellow student to keep up with all assignments in case you cannot attend a class session for any reason.
2. Each assignment will be completed before the designated class in which it is due. **NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED.**
3. Absolutely no food or drink in the class, as per college policy. An exception can be made for bottled water on hot days.
4. You are responsible for keeping track of your class grade average and the drop deadline.
5. **Out of Class Assignments:** The Department of Education policy states that one (1) credit hour is the amount of student work that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of class time and two (2) hours of out-of-class time per week over the span of a semester. WASC has adopted a similar requirement.

### Graded Assignments and Grade Breakdown

Graded Assignment	%
Weekly Assignments	10
Reading Tests	20
Create a Myth	20
Research Paper	30
Final Exam	20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

- **Weekly Assignments:** There will be assignments due each week. Some will be completed in class, some will consist of group projects, and some will be homework due.
- **Reading Tests:** There will be two reading tests—one focusing on Armstrong’s book and one focusing on Bierlein’s book. You will be expected to demonstrate your understanding of each work by answering short questions related to their contents.
- **Create a Myth:** You will create an original creation myth set in the Imperial Valley. More details to follow.
- **Research Paper:** You will be asked to take a myth or mythic figure from the past and link it to a contemporary work. The essay you write on this topic should be six-to-eight pages in length and include at least six citations (no Wikipedia, please). It must be typed and double-spaced, using a standard twelve-point font; the research must be documented according to the 2009 edition of the Modern Language Association (MLA) *Handbook*.
- **Final Exam:** The final exam will consist of a series of short answer and essay-length responses aimed at assessing your overall understanding of the mythological concepts we will cover during the class.

### Attendance

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See [General Catalog](#) for details.
- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.
- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.

### Classroom Etiquette

- Electronic Devices: Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class, unless otherwise directed by the instructor.
- Food and Drink are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs. Please comply as directed by the instructor.
- Disruptive Students: Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the [General Catalog](#).
- Children in the classroom: Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.

### Academic Honesty

Academic honesty in the advancement of knowledge requires that all students and instructors respect the integrity of one another's work and recognize the important of acknowledging and safeguarding intellectual property.

There are many different forms of academic dishonesty. The following kinds of honesty violations and their definitions are not meant to be exhaustive. Rather, they are intended to serve as examples of unacceptable academic conduct.

- Plagiarism is taking and presenting as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to "cite a source" correctly, you must ask for help.
- Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment, or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the [General Catalog](#) for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or

attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment; (c) communicating test information with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment; (e) using a commercial term paper service.

### **Additional Student Services**

Imperial Valley College offers various services in support of student success. The following are some of the services available for students. Please speak to your instructor about additional services which may be available.

- **Blackboard Support Site.** The Blackboard Support Site provides a variety of support channels available to students 24 hours per day.
- **Learning Services.** There are several learning labs on campus to assist students through the use of computers and tutors. Please consult your [Campus Map](#) for the [Math Lab](#); [Reading, Writing & Language Labs](#); and the [Study Skills Center](#).
- **Library Services.** There is more to our library than just books. You have access to tutors in the [Study Skills Center](#), study rooms for small groups, and online access to a wealth of resources.

### **Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)**

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the [Disabled Student Programs and Services](#) (DSP&S) office as soon as possible. The DSP&S office is located in Building 2100, telephone 760-355-6313. Please contact them if you feel you need to be evaluated for educational accommodations.

### **Student Counseling and Health Services**

Students have counseling and health services available, provided by the pre-paid Student Health Fee.

- **Student Health Center.** A Student Health Nurse is available on campus. In addition, Pioneers Memorial Healthcare District and El Centro Regional Center provide basic health services for students, such as first aid and care for minor illnesses. Contact the IVC [Student Health Center](#) at 760-355-6310 in Room 2109 for more information.
- **Mental Health Counseling Services.** Short-term individual, couples, family, and group therapy are provided to currently enrolled students. Contact the IVC [Mental Health Counseling Services](#) at 760-355-6196 in Room 2109 for more information.

### **Student Rights and Responsibilities**

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and to due process of law. For more information regarding student rights and responsibilities, please refer to the IVC [General Catalog](#).

### **Information Literacy**

Imperial Valley College is dedicated to helping students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. The IVC [Library Department](#) provides numerous [Information Literacy Tutorials](#) to assist students in this endeavor.

**Class Schedule/Calendar**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Readings</b>	<b>Major Assignments</b>
<b>1</b>	February 15	No Class--Holiday		
<b>2</b>	February 22	Introduction	Bierlein, chapter 1	
<b>3</b>	February 29	What is a myth?	Armstrong, chapters 1-2; Bierlein, chapter 12	
<b>4</b>	March 7	What is a myth?	Armstrong, chapters 3-4; Bierlein, chapter 2	
<b>5</b>	March 14	Creation myths	Armstrong, chapters 5-7; Bierlein, chapter 3	
<b>6</b>	March 21	The Earliest Times	Bierlein, chapter 4	<b>Reading Test #1</b>
	March 28	<b>Spring Break—No Class</b>		
<b>7</b>	April 4	The Flood Myths	Bierlein, chapter 5	<b>Creation Myth Assignment Due</b>
<b>8</b>	April 11	The Monomyth	Bierlein, chapter 9	
<b>9</b>	April 18	Love Myths	Bierlein, chapter 6	
<b>10</b>	April 25	Morality & Trickster Tales	Bierlein, chapter 7-8	
<b>11</b>	May 2	Death Myths	Bierlein, chapter 10	
<b>12</b>	May 9	Destruction Myths	Bierlein, chapter 11	
<b>13</b>	May 16	Strategies for Analyzing Myths	Bierlein, chapter 13	<b>Reading Test #2</b>
<b>14</b>	May 23	Workshop; Final Exam Review		<b>Research Paper Due</b>
<b>15</b>	May 30	No Class--Holiday		
<b>16</b>	June 6	Final		<b>Final Exam</b>

**\*\*\*Tentative, subject to change without prior notice\*\*\***