

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Spring 2024	Instructor Name:	Dr. Michael Heumann
Course Title & #:	English/Humanities 226	Email:	michael.heumann@imperial.edu
CRN #:	20405/20449	Webpage (optional):	imperial.instructure.com
Classroom:	2751	Office #:	2780
Class Dates:	12 Feb – 7 June 2024	Office Hours:	Mon, Tu & Th 7-8 PM (Online), Wed 4:30-5:30 PM
Class Days:	Wednesdays	Office Phone #:	760-355-6553
Class Times:	6:00-9:10 PM	Emergency Contact:	760-355-6337
Units:	3.0	Class Format:	Face-to-Face

Course Description

Comparative themes and figures from various mythologies of the world. Interpretation of myths; their influence on art, culture, and history. (CSU/UC)

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

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

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

- *The Mythology Book: Big Ideas Simply Explained*. DK/Penguin Random House, 2021.
- Homer. *The Iliad*. Translated by Michael Heumann. *Pressbooks*, <https://pressbooks.pub/iliad/>. 2021. CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 License. [Note: this is available for free online at the above link. if you want to purchase a print copy of the book, it's available for \$25 at Amazon: <https://www.amazon.com/dp/1737048906>]

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 outside class assignment will be completed before the designated class in which it is due. **NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED.**
3. There are no make-ups for in-class assignments—including discussions, weekly assignments, and exams.
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.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Graded Assignments	% of Total Grade
Reading Questions	20
In-Class/Participation	15
Midterm	20
The Trojan War Project	25
Final Exam	20
TOTAL	100

Reading Questions: Each week, I will post questions related to that week's reading. These will be due in Canvas prior to class, but you should also bring either a print or digital copy of your answers to class to use during class discussion.

In-class/Participation: This is any work that is done in class (either written down or as part of a group or class discussion).

Midterm: The midterm will take place during Week 7. The exam will be in-class and will consist of two parts: a short answer part that will give you a chance to demonstrate your understanding of the material we have covered up to that point in class and an essay part that will require you to go into detail about one or more key aspects of mythology.

The Trojan War Project: Early in the semester, we will read Homer's *Iliad*, which recounts events that took place during the Trojan War. At the end of the semester, we will focus on examining the many reimaginings of Homer and the Trojan War that have been written in the last 40 or so years. To this end, you will need to select one of the works below, read it, and then write a research paper comparing this work to the original sources (including, but not limited to, Homer's epic). More detail about the actual research paper will be provided later in the semester, but here is the list of novels that you can choose from:

1. *The Song of Achilles* by Madeline Miller
2. *The Silence of the Girls* by Pat Barker
3. *A Thousand Ships* by Natalie Haynes
4. *Ransom* by David Malouf
5. *For the Most Beautiful* by Emily Hauser
6. *The Firebrand* by Marion Zimmer Bradley
7. *Troy* by Adèle Geras

[Note: Print and ebook copies of these books are all available on Amazon and other booksellers.]

Course Policies

- 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.
- 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.

IVC Student Resources

IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit <http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources> or click the heart icon in Canvas.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

Week	Class Dates	Topic & Reading	Major Assignments
1	Feb 14	Introduction, "What is Mythology?"	
2	Feb 21	<i>The Iliad</i> , books 1, 2, 3	
3	Feb 28	<i>The Iliad</i> , books 6 & 9 Ancient Greece: <i>The Mythology Book (TMB)</i> , pp 16-35	
4	March 6	<i>The Iliad</i> , books 16 & 18 Ancient Greece: <i>TMB</i> , pp 36-61	
5	March 13	<i>The Iliad</i> , books 22 & 24 Ancient Greece: <i>TMB</i> , pp 62-91	
6	March 20	Rome: <i>TMB</i> , pp 94-125	
7	March 27	Midterm	
SPRING BREAK--April 1-5			
8	April 10	Mesopotamia: <i>TMB</i> , pp 180-199 Egyptian: <i>TMB</i> , pp 264-283	
9	April 17	Norse: <i>TMB</i> , pp 128-157	
10	April 24	Celtic & Europe: <i>TMB</i> , pp 158-177	
11	May 1	Asia: <i>TMB</i> , pp 200-231	
12	May 8	Americas: <i>TMB</i> , pp 234-261	
13	May 15	Africa: <i>TMB</i> , pp 284-297	
14	May 22	Oceania: <i>TMB</i> , pp 300-333	
15	May 29	The Trojan War Project	Research Paper Due
16	June 5	Final Exam	

Subject to change without prior notice