

ENGL 160

Studies in Mythology

3 Credits: (3 Lecture Hours per week)

Community College of Baltimore County
Common Course Outline

Description

ENGL 160 – Studies in Mythology: Introduces the mythology and major legends of a variety of cultures, with emphasis on Greek myth and legend; examines how myths and legends are used in various literary forms, particularly drama and epic, and how they appear in contemporary culture.

Pre-requisites: ENGL 101

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Discuss the meaning of the term myth and its role in a society;
2. Describe the content of some of the major literary works of ancient cultures;
3. Describe the major characteristics of significant deities and heroes of a variety of myths systems;
4. Identify the functions of the major deities and heroes from several ancient cultures;
5. Discuss the similarities and differences among ancient myths and legends;
6. Analyze the values of a culture from its myths;
7. Discuss the similarities and differences between the values of ancient societies and our own;
8. Describe the characteristics of an oral tradition;
9. Distinguish between oral and written story-telling techniques;
10. Develop research skills for independent study of myth and legend; and
11. Recognize and explain the significance of allusions to myth and legend in later literary and artistic works.

Major Topics

- I. Greek myth will always make up a significant portion of the course.
- II. Myths from at least two other cultures will be covered.
- III. A range of genres (sacred texts, creation myths, epics, plays) will be included
- IV. Non-written forms of myths (statues, paintings, videos, performances, field trips) will be included to the extent possible
 - a. Contemporary societies

Course Requirements

Grading will be determined by the individual faculty member, but shall include the following, at minimum:

- Oral participation

The Common Course Outline (CCO) determines the essential nature of each course.

For more information, see your professor's syllabus.

- Frequent in-class writing or quizzes
- One long or two short essays
- Midterm exam (including essay)
- Final exam (including essay)

Written assignments and research projects: Students are required to use appropriate academic resources in their research and cite sources according to the style selected by their professor.

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