ROSE STATE COLLEGE

Division Course Syllabus

Division      Humanities  
Course Prefix and Number  HUM 2343

Course Title      Classical Mythology  
Semester and Year Submitted  REVISED Fall 2018  
Credit Hours      3

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Hours Per Week:  Class 3, Lab 0

Course Description (as it appears in Catalog)
This course is primarily a study of Greco-Roman myth, saga, and society, with an emphasis on literary aspects and significance of myth. It may be taken as Humanities credit for General Education requirements. Prerequisite: Successful completion of or current enrollment in ENGL 1113.

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Text(s):
Title      Classical Mythology  
Author      Mark Morford, Robert Lenardon, and Michael Sham  
Publisher      Oxford University Press  
Copyright Date  2011  
ISBN#  978-0-19-539770-3

Reading Level  12th Grade

Supplemental Materials:  (Other books, audio visual aids, etc.)
The individual instructor may select audio-visual presentations concerning American authors and their works. Additional reading may be used to supplement the text selections.
Rationale:
A study of myth will demonstrate the wisdom and truth of these ancient stories, as well as expose the students to classical literature and the values of those writings. A knowledge of myth will deepen students' understanding and appreciation of the classics and their place in the Humanistic learning tradition, as well as give students basic tools for understanding mythical allusions in literature, art, music, advertising, and other fields. An additional purpose of this course is to not only learn about they myths, but about how the myths are reflective of the ancient society that believed in these stories.

Expected Outcomes (Course Objectives):
Upon completing the course, the student should, as evaluated by the instructor:
1. Define and explain the significance, origin, and the meaning of the term, "myth"
2. Identify the meanings and significance of Greco-Roman myths
3. Recall the names of the various deities and heroes and recognize the stories connected to them
4. Recognize the universal themes and ideas among the Greco-Roman myths
5. Relate the myths and their themes to modern society
6. Engage in a critical reading of a variety of myths; recognize, understand, and explain various literary elements of myth, from characters and stories to archetypes and narrative structures
7. Write well-organized, thesis driven papers about mythology, and support ideas with explicit reasoning and textual evidence
8. Conduct research, evaluate secondary sources, and cite literary evidence using accurate MLA conventions

Methods of Instruction:
All Rose State College professors will use the online learning management system for the class syllabus, welcome from professor, and student grades but may use it for much more. Methods of instruction will vary with professors, but they are encouraged to explain their methods at the beginning of each course. These methods may include but are not limited to the following: audio-visual presentations, lectures, class discussions, small group discussions, and guest lecturers. (Note: Be sure to notify the Humanities Division Office when a guest lecturer is scheduled). Professors should also encourage students to attend art galleries, theater performances, and other relevant cultural events.

Required Assessment (Including Critical Thinking Measurements):
1. Content exams and/or quizzes
2. At least one research project
3. At least ten pages of credited writing for assessment, inquiry, learning, thinking, and /or communication

Other Assessment:
Methods may vary with professor but could include the following: (Note: these may be counted as part of the ten page credited writing mandated in #3 above)
1. Essay exam questions
2. Written reports
3. Essays
4. Journals or other written responses
5. Presentations and the use of audio/visual components
6. Cultural experiences
7. Discussion board discussion postings
8. Participation grades
Reminders to Professors:
- All unit level objectives must align with a particular course level objective.
- All assignments within each unit must align with or link to a particular unit level objective.

Rose State College Expected General Education Outcomes
- The Rose State College Assessment Program strives to provide relevant and timely data to support efforts at continuous improvement of student learning on the campus of Rose State College. Current expected outcomes include effective written communication, global and cultural awareness, and quantitative reasoning skills.
- Humanities classes measure effective writing communication and global and cultural awareness.

1. Effective Written Communication is the ability to compose a quality written document on a collegiate level. This includes the following characteristics:
   - Development of a Central Idea
   - Diction
   - Organization
   - Support
   - Sentence Structure
   - Grammar and Mechanics

2. Global and Cultural Awareness stems from a critical analysis of and an engagement with complex, interdependent global and cultural systems and legacies (such as natural, physical, social, economic, and political) and their implications on people’s lives. Through global and cultural awareness activities, students should:
   - Become informed, open-minded, and responsible people who are attentive to diversity across the spectrum of differences
   - Seek to understand how their actions affect both local and global communities
   - Address the world’s most pressing and enduring issues collaboratively and equitably
   - Work cooperatively with people from populations different than their own

3. Quantitative Reasoning refers to the ability to analyze information when presented either numerically, or in formulas, graphs, or tables, and to critically evaluate and interpret that information for solving problems, making predictions, or drawing conclusions. Students who demonstrate quantitative reasoning skills will be able to:
   - Calculate: Identify relevant mathematical information, and select appropriate methods to answer questions of a numerical nature.
   - Connect: Express and/or evaluate quantitative relationships using graphs, charts, or formulas; and
   - Conclude: Evaluate representations and inferences that are based on quantitative information, and recognize questionable values and assertions.

Unit Level Objectives:
Unit One: An Introduction to Mythology (Expected Outcomes 1, 2, 4, and 6)
1. Define myth
2. Differentiate among myths, legends, folktales, and fairytales
3. Analyze how myth and religion are intertwined
4. Identify the major sources for classical mythology
5. Describe the social and cultural customs and beliefs in ancient Greece
Unit Two: Creation of the Universe, Gods, and Humankind (Expected Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6)
   1. Analyze and compare Greek and other cultures' creation myths
   2. Distinguish among the stories of the creation of humankind
   3. Describe the characteristics of the Ages of Man
   4. Differentiate among the Greek and other cultures' flood myths

Unit Three: The Olympians (Expected Outcomes 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6)
   1. Contrast the differences between the gods and humans
   2. Explain the order of divinity in the Greek pantheon
   3. Define anthropomorphism
   4. Analyze the defining characteristics of the Twelve Olympians
   5. Judge the relationships among the Olympians
   6. Relate the major stories connected to each of the Twelve Olympians

Unit Four: The Greek Epics (Expected Outcomes 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6)
   1. Identify the characteristics of an epic
   2. Summarize the Trojan Saga
   3. Summarize the Odyssey
   4. Evaluate the evidence of truth on these epics
   5. Analyze the role of the gods in epics and their effect on the outcome of events
   6. Analyze the nature of the Greek tragic hero as seen in the Iliad and the Odyssey
   7. Recognize the themes of the major Greek epics

Unit Four: The Heroes (Expected Outcomes 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6)
   1. Identify the motifs related to the hero in Greek saga
   2. Identify the motifs related to the heroine in Greek saga
   3. Relate the stories of major heroes such as Perseus, Heracles, Theseus, and Jason

Unit Five: The Influence of Mythology in Modern Society (Expected Outcomes 5 and 6)
   1. Recognize the use of classical myth in contemporary art, music, film, and literature
   2. Discuss the secularization of myth and mythology in the modern world
   3. Discuss the demythologization of major religious traditions
   4. Explore the political and social uses of myth in the modern world

Unit Six: Research Unit (Expected Outcomes 7 and 8)
   1. Evaluate sources for use in scholarly research.
   2. Demonstrate the ability to write a research paper using accurate MLA conventions.
   3. Compose a well-developed research paper using specific evidence from primary and secondary sources.