

Common Course Outline

ENGL 160

Studies in Mythology

3 credits

The Community College of Baltimore County

Description

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.

Prerequisite: passing ENGL 101

Overall Course Objectives

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

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 myth 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.
11. Recognize and explain the significance of allusions to myth and legend in later literary and artistic works.

Major Topics

The major topics covered in this course may vary significantly from section to section, but the major topics covered will always reflect the following:

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

Course Requirements (VII)

oral participation
frequent in-class writing or quizzes
one long or two short essays
midterm exam (including essay)
final exam (including essay)