

NOVA COLLEGE-WIDE COURSE CONTENT SUMMARY
ENG 257 – MYTHOLOGICAL LITERATURE (3 CR.)

Course Description

Studies selected mythologies of the world, emphasizing their common origins and subsequent influence on human thought and expression. Involves critical reading and writing. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose

This course provides the student with specific knowledge of a variety of mythologies and an understanding of the common patterns among them. The course also promotes understanding of figurative language, such as metaphor and symbol, and mythic allusions.

Course Prerequisites/Co-requisites

Prerequisite: ENG 112 or ENG 125 or equivalent or division approval.

Course Objectives**GOAL 1 - Students will gain general knowledge and historical consciousness**

Students will be able to:

- recognize or name principle mythic figures and events emphasized in this course
- narrate selected myths

GOAL 2 - Students will demonstrate critical thinking skills.

Students will be able to:

- recognize and explain how selected myths express the cosmological, sociological, psychological, or spiritual views of a culture
- compare and contrast selected aspects of the world views of different cultures expressed by their mythologies

GOAL 3 - Student will develop college level communication skills.

Students will be able to:

- write essays, essay exams,
- participate in class discussions, and/or
- give oral presentations to demonstrate their mastery of course content

GOAL 4 - Students will enhance their social and educational values.

Students will be able to:

- recognize and value cultural differences and to
- recognize common themes that are manifested by cultures of different times and places

GOAL 5 - Students will develop life-long skills.

Students will be able to:

- develop a core of knowledge that will be useful in all future study as the names of mythic characters often form a kind of short-hand reference within cultures, just as do the myths themselves

GOAL 6 Students will develop real-world skills.

Students will be able to:

- explore the consequential nature of myths
- apply the lessons of myths to real life

Major Topics to be Included

- A. Classical Greek and Roman mythology
- B. Selected myths from the following:
 1. Asian
 2. African
 3. South American
 4. Native American cultures