



Experience the Delta Difference

LIT 241W SYLLABUS

Term: Winter 2012

Section / Time / Location: WN110 / TR 2:00-3:25 / S035

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Office Hours: M 2:00-4:00 / TR 1:00-2:00 & 3:30-4:00 / Also by appointment

Adverse Weather Line: (989) 686-9179 or 1-800-686-9179

COURSE MATERIALS

The following are the REQUIRED for this course:

- *World Mythology: An Anthology of the Great Myths and Epics*. Third Edition. Editor Donna Rosenberg. Chicago: NTC Publishing Group, 1999.
 - *A Short History of Myth*. Karen Armstrong. Canongate, 2005.
 - Reliable access to the Internet and to Delta eLearning.
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Provides an introduction to some of the concepts of mythology and the presence of these concepts in art and literature in particular. Considers the functions of mythology, the universality of the journey pattern in all myths, the nature of mythic imagery, the distinction between mythos and logos as patterns in thinking, the approaches available in examining particular myths and the application of all these dimensions in reading a given story.

PREREQUISITES: A "C" grade or better in a college level composition II or Permission of Instructor

OUTCOMES and OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

Outcome 1: Think critically to analyze, to synthesize and to explain an understanding of a given work.

Objectives:

- A. Apply the monomyth pattern to any given myth.
- B. Apply the monomyth pattern to stories or to situations from personal experience.
- C. Associate the stages in the monomyth, like the call, supernatural aid and threshold crossing, to selected stories.
- D. Predicate explanation of issues on specific details drawn from primary and secondary sources which are part of the reading assignments in the course.
- E. Examine issues in mythology on written assignments.

Outcome 2: Define significant terms in mythology.

Objectives:

- A. Define and explain the term "myth."
- B. Identify types of literary heroes as part of the definition of a mythic hero.

Outcome 3: Identify and discuss significant concepts and processes in mythology.

Objectives:

- A. Cite the functions of mythology.
- B. Compare the journeys of youthful heroes to older heroes.
- C. Contrast internal journeys of the east with external journeys of the west.

Outcome 4: Enjoy both the subject matter and the life of the mind.

Objectives:

- A. Add meaningfully to the class discussion.
- B. Respond in writing to the ideas considered in class presentations.

Outcome 5: Participate in "writing to learn" activities.

Objectives:

- A. Perform writing tasks to promote learning.
- B. Write effectively for a specific audience and purpose.
- C. Demonstrate the learning of concepts through writing.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

It is your responsibility to be on time for class and remain through the entire session. Repeatedly entering class late or leaving early without prior arrangement will be regarded as “disruptive” as provided under the “Students' Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct” section in the *Delta Catalog*, and will be addressed accordingly.

I expect you to actively attend every class. This means you need to be awake and mentally connected to what is going on in the classroom. If your plan was to hang in the back and just get through this class by never talking, engaging, and bending down to tie your shoe when I call on individuals to participate, then I highly recommend you find another class. Bad attitudes that poison the learning environment will be considered disruptive and not tolerated.

The English Division has adopted a shared policy for **Instructor Initiated Drop for Lack of Attendance**: “Your English Division instructor reserves the right to drop any student who misses the first class meeting. Your English Division instructor may drop you from this course if you miss, for any reason, in excess of 2/15 (two fifteenths) of your classes for this course.” That means in excess of **four class periods**, or the equivalent of **five hours and forty minutes of scheduled class time**. In addition, any student who misses more than one class within the first three weeks of class may be dropped.

It is polite, though not necessary, to inform me of your absence. Using e-mail provides essential documentation. I will attempt to work with you on attendance difficulties, providing you are willing to communicate with me in a timely and respectful manner. It is best to visit me during office hours or schedule a time to meet when you can have a thoughtful and thorough conversation about your needs and academic expectations of the college.

Please use your Delta.edu e-mail account to contact your instructors as other addresses may be sent to spam.

IF YOU MISS CLASS: SOME DOs AND DON'Ts

DO NOT send me an e-mail asking what you missed. I will not respond.

DO NOT e-mail me work due in class for which you were absent. This is what your peer contact is for.

DO NOT ask at the beginning of the class what you missed in the last class. When I come to class, I am responsible for the whole class, not to spend class time catching up one individual.

DO NOT ask other students at the beginning of class what you missed in the last class. This is really the lowest form of poor academic practice.

DO MAKE A PEER CONTACT from class whom you can contact if you miss class.

DO visit me during office hours to catch up on missed work that can be made up and to receive handouts and assignments prior to the next class.

DO check the class website for updates. This is a “bonus” feature which may not always be available, so

DO contact your peer to ask for notes, assignments, etc.

DO come to class prepared or you may be asked to leave and rejoin the class once you have caught up.

PREPARATION, MAKE-UP, AND LATE WORK PROCEDURES

My responsibility as an instructor is to be here during scheduled class time to present material. Your responsibility as a student is to be here to receive that material. Use your peer contact to get lecture notes and assignments for any missed class. Incomplete/missing assignments due to not being able to reach me are unacceptable. Early work for expected absences is accepted with advance notice.

Late Work: I accept no late work for my classes without prior arrangement.

In-class assignments: In-class assignments cannot be reduplicated, and so therefore cannot be made up.

Quizzes/Exams: I generally do not give pre-planned quizzes and exams during class time. If I do, it will be considered an in-class assignment that cannot be made up.

Extra Credit: Highly unlikely in my classes.

In-class activities: I use a variety of activities in my classes to help students better understand the course material. Some of these activities may push your comfort level. While I attempt to create a safe environment for your participation, it is not my intention to force you into an emotionally harmful situation. If you feel you cannot participate in a class activity, you will not receive credit. However, if you will meet with me during office hours to discuss the matter, together we can create an alternative assignment so you have an equal opportunity to gain academic experience and maintain your standing in the course.

“But the computer...” Why Blaming Technology Won’t Work in My Class

The computer crashed... The printer ran out of ink... The lab computer can’t read my device... There was a virus... Technical failures are not an excuse for late or missing work. Here’s some advice to help avoid these and other frustrating situations:

- SAVE EVERYTHING to memory stick as well as to your MyDelta SharePoint portal or other online document saving system such as Dropbox or Microsoft SkyDrive.
- Use a program that campus computers can open; use the “Save As” option and save your document in multiple versions. Delta now has Word 2010.
- E-mail a copy of your work – either as an attachment or in the body of the e-mail, or both. Some formatting may be lost in the body of the e-mail, but it’s better than nothing.
- **DO NOT** e-mail me copies of your work. I will not accept e-mailed work as “on time.” I will not open attachments, as I am not willing to risk getting a virus, nor is it my responsibility to expend the time/ink/paper to print the work. Ask your **peer contact** to receive and print your work and turn in for you.

GRADING PROCEDURE

You begin the course with no points and must earn credit to achieve a passing grade or better. The final number of points for the course will be dependent upon the number of assignments given. Delta utilizes a +/- system, which will be reflected in your final course grade. All grades will be maintained throughout the semester on eLearning (24/7 access online). Total points in previous classes have been around 250-300.

The calculation of each assignment’s grade is based on the denominator of a fraction representing the weight of the assignment. For example, a minor assignment may have a denominator of 10 and a major assignment denominator of 250. The numerator that completes the fraction determines the percentage that results in the letter grade (example: 200/250=80%=low B or 15/20=75%=mid C). Grades are as followed based on percentage of total points earned:

% POINTS	GRADE	% POINTS	GRADE
93-100	A	67-69	D+
90-92	A-	63-66	D
87-89	B+	60-62	D-
83-86	B	0 – 59.9	F
80-82	B-		
77-79	C+	I STRONGLY ENCOURAGE you to keep track of your assignments and points earned throughout the semester. SAVE EVERYTHING UNTIL FINAL GRADES ARE ISSUED.	
73-76	C		
70-72	C-		

ETHICS POLICIES

Plagiarism/Cheating

The Delta Student Handbook outlines plagiarism and the consequences for such academic dishonesty. You should familiarize yourself with this policy, as you will be held accountable to it.

Prior and Concurrent Assignments

Any writing produced for high school or other college courses will not be acceptable in this class. I will consider allowing writing for this class that may also apply in another concurrent class. This may be done ONLY if (1) both instructors are made aware of this and both agree without reservation, (2) the work fulfills all necessary requirements for the writing in this class, with no exceptions, (3) the arrangement is agreed upon within a timely manner after the assignment is given.

Classroom Behavior

My role as instructor is to create a safe classroom environment open to the exchange of ideas and viewpoints. I respect the varying viewpoints of each individual, and welcome the diversity of discussion this can create in keeping with the purposes of this course. I expect you to show similar respect to both me and your peers. Blatant bashing will not be tolerated, although I will make attempts to assist you in finding appropriate methods for expressing your views and encourage you to assist one another in this task as well. If you feel in any way threatened by activities in the classroom, I encourage you to bring it up immediately, or to discuss it with me outside of the classroom.

Participation in this class is essential. We will have whole group and small group activities. Sometimes you will get to choose your group/partner, sometimes you won't; it is your responsibility to make the process work as best you can for yourself and others. This may mean you'll need to take a leadership role. This may mean you'll need to sit back and let someone else lead. It means speaking in such a way that others will be receptive to hearing what you have to say. It means listening carefully to what others say even if the message seems harsh. Listen and respond. Be honest but considerate. Be willing to learn as well as teach. Use "I" statements instead of "you" statements.

AVAILABLE ASSISTANCE

Accommodations: Delta College is committed to affording equal opportunity to students with disabilities by providing access to its programs, activities, and services. It is the responsibility of the student to make known, in a timely manner, the need for any accommodation or auxiliary aids. Please contact Disability Support Services department by calling (989) 686-9322 or via e-mail at disabilityservices@delta.edu.

Computers: Computer labs are available in the LLIC as well as in most public libraries.

Counseling and Advising (D-Wing): The Counseling and Advising Center is available for issues relating to academic advising, personal, and career counseling. Call for more information: (989) 686-9330. Students are seen on a walk-in basis. For emergency or crisis counseling, tell the staff at the sign-in desk that you are there for "Personal Counseling" as opposed to academic counseling, and they will see that you receive the next available counselor.

Multicultural Services: The Office of Multicultural Services offers a wide range of services and activities designed to support students from multicultural backgrounds and experiences. If you encounter difficulties which interfere with your goals or progress, let the OMS know. They provide a supportive environment and serve as a resource to help students more effectively meet their personal and academic challenges. Additionally, the OMS sponsors programs and activities designed to help students get involved and connect with the College as well as to recognize the cultural, historical, and linguistic heritage of our students. Appointment can be made by calling (989) 686-9125.

Safe Space is a nationally recognized LGBTQ student support initiative. Faculty and staff who have attended training display the logo: a pink triangle with a green circle around it and the text "Delta Safe Space". This helps students identify allies who are knowledgeable about LGBTQ issues and resources and are willing to assist in a variety of ways. I am one of the coordinators for this program, so if you have any questions or concerns, please contact me directly.

Tutoring: The Library Learning Information Center (LLIC) provides tutoring for most subjects. You need your student picture ID (obtained at the Department of Public Safety) to use most of the services in the LLIC.

Veterans Services Office: Delta College welcomes all veterans, their dependents and spouses, disabled veterans, Guards and Reservists to use the veteran's benefits they are entitled to at Delta College. The Veterans Services Office is located in B101 (Registration Office), phone: (989) 686-9456, e-mail: vets@delta.edu. The VSO website has more information and forms that can be completely directly online.

Writing Reading and Information Technology (WRIT) Center (Library - A125): For any writing at any stage of the process. Don't know where to start? Take in your assignment, they'll help you brainstorm. Have an early draft that needs direction? A final draft that needs polishing? They can help! They'll also help with resumes, cover letters, poetry – you name it. Staffed by consultants as well as faculty. They also accept online submissions! Go to Delta's A-Z index and look up "Writing Center" for current hours and online assistance.

CLASS ONLINE COMPONENT

In addition to the class texts, I will also regularly utilize a class website on Wordpress: <http://eng241.wordpress.com> Here you will find a variety of resources as well as assignment materials as well as a schedule of activities which I will attempt to maintain immediately following each class, so check here first if you miss class or forget what's due.

CANCELLATION COMMUNICATION

Should I not be able to attend class at any time, I will post announcements on the Wordpress website, on eLearning, and e-mail each of you with information about the missed class. It will be your responsibility to maintain contact via these electronic methods.

WITHDRAWAL

Official withdrawal/drops are allowed through four-fifths of the course (the 12th week of a 15-week semester course). When an official withdrawal/drop is initiated after mid-course, the grade will be a "W." If you do not officially withdraw/drop, I must assign an appropriate final letter grade ("A" through "E") in relation to total course requirements achieved.

PASS/NO CREDIT OPTION

The Pass/No Credit grade option is available for this course. If you are interested in this grading option in place of the usual "A" through "F" grading system, you should declare this choice at registration or no later than the end of the 12th week of the semester. For more information about this option, go to Delta's A-Z index and look up "Pass/No Credit Form" and "Pass/No Credit Info."

As with any option that affects your status in a class, PLEASE take the time to consult with your instructor, your academic advisor or counselor, and if you are receiving any type of financial aid, with the Financial Aid Office.

HONORS OPTION is available for this class. Please see me ASAP to make arrangements for this.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES IN THE CLASSROOM

Please turn off all personal electronic devices while in class unless you have made arrangements with me in advance. This includes laptops for note taking. Use without approval is subject to disruptive behavior code of conduct.

STUDENT WORK

Intellectual Property Rights

All work originated and produced by a student or team of students is the intellectual property of those producing it. This instructor exercises no proprietary rights over the content or format of such work. All references to such work must be fully attributed and documented.

Physical Rights of Document Ownership

Copies of student work submitted as fulfillment of this instructor's assignments are the physical property of Delta College. It is the instructor's prerogative whether to return that work (project, document, etc.) to the student(s). Such properties may be held for permanent records as evidence in cases of suspected plagiarism or other scholarly malpractice. Documents unclaimed within one term following enrollment in the class may be destroyed.

SYLLABUS REVISION/INSTRUCTOR PREROGATIVE

The instructor retains the right to modify this syllabus and any of its terms as appropriate throughout the semester. This right, however, is limited to practical necessities (schedule, assignments, etc.) and legal or institutional requirements that supersede this syllabus as a contract. Student feedback will also be taken into consideration. Students will be notified of any change to the syllabus.

SAFETY PROCEDURES

It is your responsibility to familiarize yourself with procedure bulletins posted in the classroom.

In addition to a copy of this document being made available to each student at the opening class session, a copy has also been electronically distributed to the English Department Office for record keeping.