

HUM2310 (Online Course)

Section 75 3 Credit Hours Summer C 2023 (May 15-August 9)

Mythology and the Humanities

Instructor: Dr. James Meier

Virtual Office Hours and Contacting the Instructor:

Virtual Office Hours:
to be announced

“Actual” (Physical) Office Hours:
to be announced

It's best to contact me through the Canvas email system. Please allow 24 hours for an email response Monday morning through Thursday afternoon, and up to 48 hours Friday through Sunday evening. **If you attempt to communicate with me through announcements, Discussion Forums, tests, or other assignments available in Canvas, typically, I will not see your comments or questions** since Canvas does not effectively notify instructors of such messages. I can meet with you in person in my office by appointment. You can contact me through my campus email of meierj@cf.edu, but I do not check it frequently as I do my Canvas email account, so anticipate a longer response time.

Course Description:

This online course offers an introduction to eastern and western mythologies, and their influence on art, literature, philosophy, religion and music.

Course Objectives:

The student will be able to demonstrate knowledge of: (a) how myths have been transformed through cultures and time; (b) the relationship between myth, religion and culture; (c) myths as reflections of both universal and ethnic ideas; and (d) thoughts and symbols from significant mythologies which provide background for study of literature, music and art. Additionally, the course seeks to promote students' writing skills.

Extended Emergency Closure:

For emergency campus closings (natural disasters, etc.) call 352-291-4499 or 800-831-9244, or check the homepage for the College of Central Florida (CF) at www.cf.edu

Required Text:

You do not need to purchase a text for this course. All the assigned materials (readings, videos, etc.) are available either through Canvas or linked to external Internet sites free of charge.

Student Responsibilities:

ENC1101 is a requirement for this course. Additionally, you need to have continued access to the Internet and a reliable computer. You are responsible for all the assigned readings and supplemental materials that might be made available, check regularly for announcements, read and participate in DFs, submit writing assignments on a timely basis, and take tests on the dates that they are administered. Predictably, lack of adequate preparation for tests and irregular contributions to DFs tend to result in significantly lower grades.

Navigating Canvas:

This course uses Canvas as its Learning Management System platform and to post course materials. Go to <https://mycf.cf.edu/ICS/>, login, click on the “Academics” tab, and follow the link “Go to Canvas.” If you are unfamiliar with Canvas, you may access a self-tutorial by hovering over the Courses tab in Canvas and clicking on the Getting Started in Canvas course. As well, you will find helpful links by clicking on the “Help” icon in the bottom left-hand corner of your Canvas page. If you have questions or encounter any problems logging on to Canvas, contact the E-Learning Help Desk at dlhelp@cf.edu or at 352-854-2322, ext. 1317. You may also access

the “Canvas Support Hotline (Students)” or “Chat with Canvas Support (Students)” features by clicking the “Help” icon in Canvas.

Student Assessments – Grading Procedures:

- Introductory Discussion Forum (DF)
- Syllabus Quiz
- Tests
- Writing Assignments
- Discussion Forum (DF) Participation

Letter grades are based on the numeric grades earned in the course. Below are the **minimum** numeric grades necessary to acquire a(n): A=90.0; B+=87.0; B=80.0; C+=77.0; C=70.0; and D=60.0. Any grade below 60.0 will receive an F. In order to protect your right to privacy in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), grades will not be released via telephone or by an email system other than the one embedded in Canvas. As well, your grades will not be discussed with anyone other than you, unless directed to do so by a college official or if you give written permission. A grade of “Incomplete” will apply only when you have been successfully participating in this course and experience an emergency at the end of a semester that prevents you from completing it.

Introductory Discussion Forum (DF):

This is a straightforward assignment. Go to “Modules” and click on “Introductory Discussion Forum (DF).” Read the prompt, then compose and upload a brief description of yourself (75 words or more) so that your fellow students can learn a little about you and other classmates.

Syllabus Quiz:

This online quiz is intended to ensure that you have read and understood the syllabus, acquainted yourself with the course resources, and acquired sufficient proficiency in navigating Canvas so as to promote success in HUM2310. You can take this quiz up to three times.

Tests:

There will be five tests available online through Canvas, none of which are cumulative. The tests are open-book, meaning you are welcome to consult your notes, the Internet, or other print and digital resources. However, you may not discuss test questions with other students while tests are active, nor consult or otherwise collaborate with anyone toward the completion of tests. Test periods are listed in “Tentative Course Schedule” below. Each test will cover approximately one-fifth of the course. You have 45 minutes to complete the tests, each consisting of 50 questions. The questions may be of the following variety: multiple choice, true or false, fill in the blank, and matching terms. Questions will appear one at a time and not allow you to backtrack to those you have already viewed. You will be alerted to upcoming tests by way of announcements a few days prior to each test. During designated test periods, icons for the tests will appear in the “Modules” tab. You will be allowed just one attempt for each test, although **if you get “booted out” of the test (owing to your computer crashing, an interruption in internet access, or some other such technical glitch), simply re-enter the test as soon as possible (since the clock will continue to tick down all the while) and complete it.** Promptly at 11:59 pm on the last day of the test period, the test will shut down and disappear, effectively ending your access to it, even if you are in the process of writing it at that very moment. Once all the tests have been graded, usually within a few days following the expiration of the test period, you will be allowed to review your test digitally and view the grade. An announcement will be posted in Canvas drawing your attention to that fact. Despite the daunting breadth of the readings, making brief summations of them during the semester on an ongoing basis will greatly facilitate preparation. To aid in that process, Study Guides will be made available every Friday at noon for the coming week’s assigned materials. The questions that will appear on tests can be anticipated by studying the terms featured in the Study Guides.

Writing Assignments:

Please note that HUM2310 is a Gordon Rule course and that it includes a significant writing component. Per state policy, the quality of student writing must demonstrate a “C” level or higher proficiency (70 percent or better) in order to earn a “C” grade or higher in the course as a whole. You will be asked to submit three writing assignments.

The first two will consist of approximately 800 words each while the third, a reaction paper ought to be approximately 600 words in length.

Discussion Forum (DF) Participation:

DF participation is an essential element of this class. Your DF participation grade will be based on the quality, originality, and regularity of your contributions to the DFs, and the degree to which your comments reflect a familiarity with the readings. You are expected to contribute posts to at least 12 of the 15 DFs. Only your 12 highest DF grades will be counted toward your overall DF grade. Each Friday at noon (except for DF 1), a new topic question will be posted to the DF or DFs for the coming week. Each DF provides its own specific due date. While you may upload more than one post to a given DF, no extra points will be awarded for doing so. In that case, only the post from that specific DF awarded the highest grade would be recorded in the Canvas grade book.

For each DF to which you respond, you need to upload two posts: one of an informational nature and one commenting on the post of a fellow student. The informational post must be at least 75 words in length and will be graded on a scale of 0-4. Additionally, you need to comment on the post of another student. This comment post only needs to be 25 words (or more) and is graded of a scale of 0-1. The cumulative grade representing the sum of the two posts will be recorded in the grade book for each specific DF. All posts need to be on topic and related to the DF prompt. **Do not copy or paraphrase what appears in a primary or secondary source, whether print or digital, that you have consulted.** In the same vein, it is not acceptable to merely echo what another student has already written in a previous post. To avoid this pitfall, **familiarize yourself with the posts of your classmates in the applicable DF. In responding to a given DF prompt, craft a short response in standard sentence form that represents your analysis of the issue, presented from your perspective, and expressed in your own words.** Please be aware that there is no statute of limitations with respect to copied work. Even though I would normally detect obvious examples of plagiarism in grading DF posts, I operate under the assumption that your posts are original and conform to CF's Honor Code guidelines (see the relevant section of Academic Integrity and Honor Code of the Student Handbook at <http://cf.smartcatalogiq.com/en/2016-2017/Student-Handbook/Section-7-Student-Right-To-Know-Information/Copy-of-Academic-Integrity-and-Honor-Code>). If I later discover that work you submitted earlier in the semester was copied and that I initially failed to recognize that, I reserve the right to re-grade posts and assign them an amended grade.

In composing posts, express yourself in a grammatically correct manner, as if you were writing very short essays. Keep it simple stylistically. In other words: please do not "shout" (i.e., use text in upper-case letters) or embolden or color text; do not employ large or overly small sized font; do not use exotic formats or patterned backgrounds; and do not present your comments in bullet form. At all times, comments must be respectful of the opinions and sensibilities of other students in the class. In a related fashion, kindly direct comments that are critical of the course or the instructor to the course instructor himself—do not post them in a DF or via a general broadcast email to the class. Half credit will be awarded to posts uploaded late, but they must be submitted within a week of the due date, which means by 11:59 pm on the Sunday following the posted deadline. If you attempt to upload your post after the DF closes or do not submit a post at all for a particular DF, you will not receive a grade for that DF. For DFs 2-15, you have at least nine days in which to upload an on-time post, so do not leave posting your contribution to the last moment and risk missing the deadline.

If you wish to post a comment or a question about the material you encounter in the assigned materials, you can do so in the "DF For Questions About Content" found in the subfolder entitled "Discussion Forum For Questions About Course Content." Of course, you are welcome, indeed, even encouraged, to respond to the comments and questions of your classmates in this DF. If it is helpful, you might also include links to useful materials found on the Internet.

Tentative Schedule of Topics, Readings, Assignments, and Tests (due to unforeseen developments, it may be necessary for the schedule below to be altered. The instructor will always strive to be fair concerning any changes).

Week 1:

- Myth and the Hero's Journey (Unit 1)

- **Introductory DF due**
- **Syllabus Quiz due**

Week 2:

- Creation Myths (Unit 2)
- Homer and Hesiod (Unit 3)
- **DFs 1-3 due**
- **Test 1 (on Units 1-3: consult SGs 1-3)**

Week 3:

- The Role of Myth in Ancient Greece (Unit 4)
- The Mythology of Classical Greece (Unit 5)
- **DFs 4-5 due**

Week 4:

- The Roman Contribution (Unit 6)
- **Writing Assignment 1 due**
- **DF 6 due**
- **Test 2 (on Units 4-6: consult SGs 4-6)**

Week 5:

- Mesopotamian Mythology (Unit 7)
- Egyptian Mythology (Unit 8)
- **DFs 7-8 due**

Week 6:

- Celtic Mythology (Unit 9)
- **DF 9 due**
- **Test 3 (on Units 7-9: consult SGs 7-9)**

Week 7:

- Norse Mythology (Unit 10)
- **DF 10 due**

Week 8:

- Arthurian Myth (Unit 11)
- **Writing Assignment 2 due**
- **DF 11 due**

Week 9:

- African Mythology (Unit 12)
- **DF 12 due**
- **Test 4 (on Units 10-12: consult SGs 10-12)**

Week 10:

- Mesoamerican and Native American Mythology (Unit 13)
- **DF 13 due**

Week 11:

- Mythology and the Arts (Unit 14)
- **DF 14 due**

Week 12:

- Mythology and Popular Culture (Unit 15)

- **DF 13 due**
- **Writing Assignment 3 due**

Week 13:

- **Test 5 (on Units 13-15: consult SGs 13-15)**

Policy for Missed Assignments:

Under normal circumstances, it is expected that you will complete the five tests for the course and submit posts to each of the 15 DFs. However, if an emergency, health-related problem, personal crisis, or participation in an approved school function were to prevent you from completing these assignments, you would be exempt from completing the following assignments without penalty: one test and posts for as many as three DFs. You would not be required to notify the instructor nor submit documentation attesting to the circumstances that led to you missing these assignments—your exemption is based on the honor system that operates at CF. Only your highest four test scores would count toward your overall test grade for the course. However, if you miss more than one test, you would be assessed a zero for the second test or subsequent tests which you did not write. Similarly, only the highest 12 DF scores that you accumulate would count when computing your overall course grades.

Interpreting Posted Grades:

The grade book that Canvas makes available to you under the “Grades” tab provides grades for the Introductory DF, Syllabus Quiz, tests, DFs, and writing assignments. **However, it will not furnish authoritative, reliable, and up-to-date overall course grades—at least not until the end of the semester. Accordingly, it is best to disregard overall averages generated by Canvas.** To obtain a more accurate provisional overall grade at any given point in time, it will be necessary to compute it based on the available individual grades in accordance with the weighting of grades as described above (under the subheading of “Student Assessments – Grading Procedures”).

Virtual Office Hours:

You can email me through Canvas’ email system at any time and I will endeavor to respond in a timely fashion. During virtual office hours, I will respond promptly to questions by email. In case you are unavailable at the times listed above, contact me and we can arrange a mutually agreeable alternative time. If there's something you'd like to discuss, we can also arrange to communicate via Zoom, Skype, or by phone.

Student Learning Outcomes/Course Objectives:

The following list offers students a consistent way to see how CF’s global learning outcomes are assessed in each class. This is for information only and does not change the grading system used in this class. Only those learning outcomes relevant to this course are included below.

Communication: The student will read, write, speak, and listen effectively. (The following will be assessed in Discussion Forums, tests, and writing assignments).

1. Read materials and effectively understand essential facts and concepts.

Global Socio-Cultural Responsibility: The student will be an informed and responsible citizen in social, cultural, and global matters. (The following will be assessed in student responses to Discussion Forum prompts, tests, and writing assignments).

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the values and expressions of other cultures that arise from human experience.
3. Recognize complex historical, cultural, economic, and political forces that create societies as well as how these forces shape personal identity.
4. Understand the local and global connections among power, knowledge, gender, and class.
5. Understand the local and global connections between self-direction, cooperation, respect, responsibility, integrity, and social success.

College Resources, Dates, and Policies:

The College of Central Florida is committed to helping you succeed and achieve your academic, personal, and career goals. There are a wide range of resources and support services available to you. When students are connected early to resources and support systems on campus they are more likely to stay in classes, perform better in those classes, and complete their path more quickly. One example is through an Early Support Program, where you may receive an email indicating your professor or advisor is reaching out directly to help connect you to support services. This may include connecting you to tutoring, financial support, psychological support services, and disability services just to name a few. Be aware, you can also reach out to these services on your own as well. Additionally, CF offers disability services, a testing center, and many other resources that are available to you. [Please refer to the College Resources, Dates, and Policies document in your Canvas course to learn more about these supports.](#)