

Mythology

Mrs. Farabee

Room 312

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342-2800

Course Description: In this English elective course, students read, discuss, analyze, and write about myths and fables from ancient Greece and Rome, Egypt, Britain, Europe, Mesopotamia, China, Japan, and India. Activities help students acquire an appreciation for ancient myths and examine myth making in the modern world. Students explore the influence of mythology on modern language, culture, and daily life and compare ancient and modern epic heroes. This course may be taken as elective credit; it may not be used to fulfill core course requirements.

Essential Functions: To be successful in Mythology, students must be able to perform the following functions:

- Read and comprehend texts and supplemental readings
- Communicate in writing and speech using Standard American English grammar, sentence structure, and paragraph development
- Understand and respond accurately to higher order test questions
- Actively participate in class discussions
- Work effectively as individuals as well as in groups

Course Prerequisites: None

Texts: *World Mythology*, Donna Rosenberg

Mythology, Edith Hamilton

Materials Needed:

3-ring binder

2 divider tabs

Blue and black ink pens

Notebook paper

Other materials for special projects to be arranged.

Donations of hand sanitizer or Kleenex are requested (but not required)

Class Procedures:

Mythology Warm-ups—Each class period will start with questions to consider for the mythology lesson. These may be specific questions from the lesson or journal questions that relate to the student's experience and that impact on the mythology lesson.

Assignments—Class assignments and homework or project due dates are written on the board each day. Students are to copy down their assignments at the beginning of class. The student is responsible for the assignments that are written on the board.

Questions and help—Students need to raise one hand and wait for the teacher to give them permission to speak. Students needing additional help with classwork need to arrange in advance for help after school with Mrs. Farabee.

Passes—Since it is important for students to be in the classroom as much as possible, hall passes will be given on a very limited basis. Students are expected to go to the bathroom before or after class, not during class.

Cell phones—**Cell phones must be turned off** upon entering the classroom. Once the class begins, students may not use their cell phones unless given direct permission from the teacher. Students who use cell phones during class without permission will have their cell phones confiscated and sent to the office.

Writing—Writing assignments are worth test grades in this class and will be developed using the writing process. Final drafts of writing assignments are **only** accepted in blue or black ink.

Attendance:

Regular attendance is mandatory in order for students to be successful in Mythology. Unexcused absences or tardies will result in zeroes for missed work. The attendance policy of the Tuscaloosa County Board will be followed and enforced. Any student who misses more than five class periods per semester will be required to bring a doctor's note to be excused. Parent notes will not be accepted after five absences. The Tuscaloosa County Board of Education has adopted a policy whereby **no credit** will be awarded in any class when a student amasses **15 unexcused absences**. The student receives a zero for the class and will be withdrawn.

Make-Up Work:

Students are responsible for making up any work missed due to an **excused** absence. It is the students' responsibility to see Mrs. Farabee about the work that they missed within **two days** of the excused absence. Any work not made up will receive a grade of zero. Students will need to stay after school to make up tests, and arrangements should be made in advance with Mrs. Farabee.

Grading Policy/Evaluation:

- ❖ The final grade for each grading period will be based on tests, quizzes, writing assignments, projects, presentations, and classwork. Mandatory comprehensive exams will be administered at the end of the first, second, and third nine-week grading period. The weight assigned to each comprehensive exam will be up to 20% of the nine-week grade. The comprehensive final exam administered at the conclusion of the course will count twenty percent (20%) of the **final grade** for the course. The sum of the four nine weeks' averages will be added to the course final exam grade. This total will be divided by five to get the course final grade. Mandatory comprehensive final examinations are administered to all students except those students meeting the exemption criteria. In order to be exempt from a final exam at the end of a full credit, four nine-week grading period course, a student must possess an A (90-100) average with 6 or fewer absences, possess a B (80-89) average with 4 or fewer absences, or possess a C (70-79) average with 2 or fewer absences, **AND** have no discipline referrals that result in detention or suspension during the year. The final course grade for students in grades 9-12 who meet exemption criteria will be determined from the average of the four nine weeks' grades.
- ❖ Students are responsible for keeping up with all assignments and due dates. **Incomplete work will be not accepted.** If a student does not have completed classwork or homework, the student will receive a grade of zero.
- ❖ No late work will be accepted for classwork or homework. Work is considered late any time after the teacher has already collected the work from the class. Writing assignments and projects that are turned in late will be penalized 15

points the first day and 30 points the second day. **After the second day, the student will receive a grade of zero.**

- ❖ **Cheating will not be tolerated in this class.** Copying another person's classwork is considered cheating. Plagiarism is a form of cheating. Talking, passing notes, or communicating in any way with another student during a test is considered cheating. Any student caught cheating will automatically receive a grade of zero on that work and will be referred to the office for appropriate disciplinary action.

Classroom Expectations for Students:

- 1. Follow directions the first time they are given.**
- 2. Raise your hand and wait to be called on before speaking.**
- 3. Show respect to others by working quietly, listening attentively, speaking politely, and keeping your hands to yourself.**
- 4. Bring all necessary materials to class.**
- 5. Be in your seat when the bell rings.**
- 6. Keep all food and drink out of the classroom.**

Consequences if a student chooses to disobey:

1st offense: verbal warning

2nd offense: verbal warning and parent phone call

3rd or severe offense: office referral

Course Outline:

**This outline will provide you with an idea of my plans for the semester, but it is subject to change.*

1st nine weeks

- I. Mythology in our society
- II. Egyptian mythology
- III. Chinese mythology
- IV. Native American mythology

2nd nine weeks

- I. Greek and Roman mythology
- II. Trojan War
- III. Greek mythology in modern film

3rd nine weeks

- I. Norse mythology
- II. *Sigurd the Volsung*
- III. Norse mythology in modern film

4th nine weeks

- I. Beowulf
- II. Arthurian legend
- III. World mythology research

****Please return this page to Mrs. Farabee****

Dear Parent:

You are invited to visit our mythology class at any time. If you have concerns about the class, please do not hesitate to contact me at 342-2800 or email me through the school's website at www.hillcresthigh.net.

Please review this course syllabus with your child and ensure that he or she has the materials needed for class and understands the classroom expectations and procedures. You may help your child keep up with his or her work by referring to INOW at home. Mid-nine weeks' progress reports will be sent home each grading period that you will need to sign and return within two days. Please contact me immediately if you do not receive a progress report from your child.

Please sign below to indicate that you have read the course syllabus, including the course outline, grading policy, attendance policy, make-up work policy, class procedures, and materials needed for class. I look forward to teaching your child this semester. If possible, please provide an email address so that I can keep you aware of important class information.

Parent's signature

Date

email address

daytime phone

Dear Student:

Please review this syllabus and sign below to indicate that you understand the information provided. I look forward to teaching you this semester.

Student's printed name

Student's signature

Date