



Peru State College
ANTHROPOLOGY 380 – WORLD MYTHOLOGY
Syllabus – Spring – 2012

Instructor: S. Davis
Office Hours: Posted on my door (FA 207) and by appointment
Office Telephone: (402) 872-2268
Email Address: sdavis@peru.edu
Course Meets: T R - 2:00 P.M. – 3:15 P.M.
Credit Hours: 3

Required Textbook: Beowulf (Signet), ISBN-978-0451527400
Gilgamesh (Penguin), ISBN-978-0140441000
The Essential Illiad (Hackett), ISBN-0872205428
Sundiata (Longman), ISBN-1405849428.

Required Software: None

Course Description & Objectives

The course introduces myths and fables from ancient and contemporary societies, their structure, purposes, and evolution.

Prerequisites: None.

Upon completion of this course you should be able to:

1. Describe scholarly theories of myth.
2. Compare and contrast the myths of ancient societies.
3. Describe the modernization of myth in modern life.

At the beginning of the course, we will discuss how these objectives fit into the College's and School's mission and goals.

Expectations & Instructional Approach

Classes will include lecture, discussion, in-class writing, videotapes, student presentations. Regular, comprehensive note-taking is necessary.

Attendance and participation are vital to the learning experience. Consequently, I expect you to be at each class having read the material and ready to participate in the day's discussions and exercises. Please be in class on time. In order to foster a climate conducive to learning, please join me in treating your classmates with respect. I encourage students to ask questions, seek my help when they need it, and help their classmates understand the material.

Assessment and Grading

The following criteria indicate the level of achievement defining each grade level – mastery of basic facts; clear statement of facts in writing and speech; logical organization of data as narrative, description and explanation; comprehension and use of primary sources.

A Guide to Essay Answers and Essays:

Essays written in class cannot be as polished as essays prepared at leisure, revised, and edited. But there are qualities required in all written work, upon which assessment of your work will be based.

1. Your writing should be honest. Say only what you know. Use only terms and descriptions that you understand. Guesses, speculation, and rhetorical questions are effortless and therefore worth no credit.
2. Put things in your own words – do not just copy from a source – that is plagiarism.
3. Be specific – include facts and details. You need as a critical reader, as well as an effective writer, to separate important facts from trivial items. Then include the important, specific information in your essay. Do not be vague. Do not repeat points.
4. Use a scholarly tone. Sarcasm, jokes, slang, profanity, and colloquial terms should be avoided.

5. Obey the rules – use foot-notes, page references, correct quotation rules; provide a title; number the pages.
6. You must use and demonstrate comprehension of the assigned work or the scholarly works listed in your bibliography.

Late Work:

In the case of medical emergency or unique circumstances which in my professional judgment preclude timely completion of assignments, I will provide a make-up exam or extend a deadline. Consult your college catalog for the definition of academic dishonesty.

Class Attendance and Participation:

College policy requires regular attendance at all classes.

Weekly Assignments:

Consult the schedule of reading assignments and activities listed below.

Exams:

- A. 4 hour exams – 100 pts each.
- B. In-class exercises. Each counts 10 pts; top 10 count. No make-up essays – must be done in class.
- C. Final Exam – 100 pts.
- D. 600 total points in course.

Students with special needs should make these known to the instructor in the first week of the course.

Written work if done outside the classroom must be submitted in class in person and a copy retained until the final grade for the course is received.

Grading Scale: *(expressed in percentage)*

A	90 - 100
B+	85 - 89
B	80 - 84
C+	75 - 79
C	70 - 74
D+	69 - 65
D	64 - 60
F	59 - 0

College's Incomplete Coursework Policy

To designate a student's work in a course as incomplete at the end of a term, the instructor records the incomplete grade (I). Students may receive this grade only when serious illness, hardship, death in the immediate family, or military service during the semester in which they are registered prevents them from completing course requirements. In addition, to receive an incomplete, a student must have completed substantially all of the course's major requirements.

Unless extenuating circumstances dictate otherwise, students must initiate requests for an incomplete by filling out an Incomplete Grade Completion Contract, which requires the signature of the student, instructor, and Dean. The Incomplete Grade Completion contract cites the reason(s) for the incomplete and details the specific obligations the student must meet to change the incomplete to a letter grade. The date by which the student agrees to complete required work must appear in the contract. The Dean, the instructor, and the student receive signed copies of the Incomplete Grade Completion Contract.

Even if the student does not attend Peru State College, all incomplete course work must be finished by the end of the subsequent semester. Unless the appropriate Dean approves an extension and if the student does not fulfill contract obligations in the allotted time, the incomplete grade automatically becomes an F.

College's Academic Integrity Policy

The College expects all students to conduct themselves in a manner that supports an honest assessment of student learning outcomes and the assignment of grades that appropriately reflect student performance. It is ultimately the student's responsibility to understand and comply with instructions regarding the completion of assignments, exams, and other academic activities. At a minimum, students should assume that at each assessment opportunity they are expected to do their own original academic work and/or clearly acknowledge in an appropriate fashion the intellectual work of others, when such contributions are allowed. Students helping others to circumvent honest assessments of learning outcomes, or who fail to report instances of academic dishonesty, are also subject to the sanctions

defined in this policy.

Instances of academic dishonesty may be discovered in a variety of ways. Faculty members who assign written work ordinarily check citations for accuracy, run data base and online checks, and/or may simply recognize familiar passages that are not cited. They may observe students in the act of cheating or may become aware of instances of cheating from the statements of others. All persons who observe or otherwise know about instances of cheating are expected to report such instances to the proper instructor or Dean.

In order to promote academic integrity, the College subscribes to an electronic service to review papers for the appropriate citations and originality. Key elements of submitted papers are stored electronically in a limited access database and thus become a permanent part of the material to which future submissions are compared. Submission of an application and continued enrollment signifies your permission for this use of your written work.

NSCS Board of Trustees Policy 4220 states that each College “. . . will establish a distance learning assessment policy that will include, at a minimum, a substantial culminating experience that is proctored.” Peru State College’s policy is that each course that is offered entirely online will feature a proctored final exam that substantially measures the extent the course’s stated learning objectives are achieved. Online course syllabi will clearly state that, regardless of grades earned previously, the proctored final exam must be passed in order to receive credit for the course. Courses which feature graded site-based activities (e.g., teaching demonstrations) and/or video-taped presentations that occur near the end of the term, and that are designed to substantially assess the achievement of learning objectives, can be considered in compliance with this policy. Project-based capstone and graduate courses utilizing real-time discussions held by web-cam, phone or in person with the faculty member as part of the assessment process can also be considered in compliance with this policy.

Should an occurrence of academic misconduct occur, the faculty member may assign a failing grade for the assignment or a failing grade for the course. Each incident of academic misconduct should be reported to the Dean and the Vice President for Academic Affairs (VPAA). The VPAA may suspend students for two semesters found to be responsible for multiple instances of academic dishonesty. The reason for the suspension will be noted on the student’s transcript.

A faculty member need present only basic evidence of academic dishonesty. There is no requirement for proof of intent. Students are responsible for understanding these tenets of academic honesty and integrity. Students may appeal penalties for academic dishonesty using the process established for

grades appeals.

Title IX Compliance Notice

Peru State College is an equal opportunity institution. PSC does not discriminate against any student, employee or applicant on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, or age in employment and education opportunities, including but not limited to admission decisions. The College has designated an individual to coordinate the College's nondiscrimination efforts to comply with regulations implementing Title VI, VII, IX, and Section 504. Inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies and practices may be directed to Eulanda Cade, Director of Human Resources, Title VI, VII, IX Compliance Coordinator, Peru State College, PO Box 10, Peru, NE 68421-0010, (402) 872-2230.

Students requesting reasonable accommodation and tutoring services should contact the Center for Achievement and Transition Services (CATS).

Tentative Course Schedule

Week of	Topics	Reading Assignments/Activities
Week One	The Nature of Myth Sumerian stories	Reading on reserve <u>Epic of Gilgamesh</u>
Week Two	Gilgamesh Hour Exam	<u>Epic of Gilgamesh</u> <u>Epic of Gilgamesh</u>
Week Three	Egyptian Literature Egyptian Myth	Reading on reserve Reading on reserve
Week Four	Iliad I Iliad II	<u>Essential Iliad</u> <u>Essential Iliad</u>
Week Five	Odyssey Hour Exam	Reading on reserve <u>Essential Iliad</u>

Week Six	Greek tragedy I Greek tragedy II	Reading on reserve Reading on reserve
Week Seven	Persian Myth The Shahnameh	Reading on reserve Reading on reserve
Week Eight	Hindu Myth Ramayana	Reading on reserve Reading on reserve
Week Nine	Mahabharata Indian Folk Tales	Reading on reserve Reading on reserve
Week Ten	African Myth <u>Sundiata</u>	<u>Sundiata</u> <u>Sundiata</u>
Week Eleven	Hour Exam Beowulf I	<u>Sundiata</u> <u>Beowulf</u>
Week Twelve	Beowulf II Hour Exam	<u>Beowulf</u> <u>Beowulf</u>
Week Thirteen	Chinese Myth Chinese Folk Tales	Reading on reserve Reading on reserve
Week Fourteen	Brothers Grimm I Brothers Grimm II	Reading on reserve Reading on reserve
Week Fifteen	Utopian Myth I Utopian Myth II	Reading on reserve Reading on reserve
Week Sixteen	American Folklore I American Folklore II	Reading on reserve Reading on reserve
Week Seventeen	FINAL EXAM	

This is a tentative schedule of topics and assignments and may be changed, but no change in the description or date of assigned work will be made by the college or instructor without adequate prior notice in class.