Course Description

We will take semiotic approach to myth as language as we discuss texts, art, music, and film from a range of cultures.

Texts

Chan, Wing-Tsit, A Sourcebook in Chinese Philosophy.
Chandler, Semiotics for Beginners, http://www.aber.ac.uk/media/Documents/S4B/semiotic.html
Ellison, Invisible Man.
Fluxus Portal. www.fluxus.org
Neihardt, Black Elk Speaks.
Powers, Yuwipi.
Rhodes, Outsider Art.
Robinson, The Debt, http://www.will.uiuc.edu/WILL_Contents/AM_Focus_580_Webcasts.htm
Sandars, Gilgamesh.
Snyder, No Nature.

Requirements and Evaluation

I allow 2 absences and will lower your final grade by one letter for each absence thereafter.

The course is divided into four segments. A 5-page essay on an assigned topic is due at the end of each segment. You may revise one of these essays for a higher grade. I will calculate your final grade as follows:

- Essays 1-4 (15% each) 60% of grade
- Final examination 15% of grade
- Participation 25% of grade

Participation reflects your work on quizzes, short written assignments, and your involvement in class discussion.

You must complete all course requirements punctually to receive a passing grade in the course.

If you have a documented disability and wish to receive accommodations, which I will gladly provide, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.
Schedule

The course has four segments. I'll do my best to keep to the schedule while making adjustments for your needs and interests. A 5-page written assignment is due at the end of each segment.

1. Native Thoughts


Feb. 1: Written Assignment Due

2. Cultivating Roots


March 1: Written Assignment Due

3. Rootlessness and "Mad" Art

[March 4-8] Chatwin, *Songlines.*

[March 11-15, Spring Recess]


March 29: Written Assignment Due

4. Tyranny and Invisibility

[April 1-5] Sandars (Trans.), *Gilgamesh.*


April 26: Written Assignment Due