Spring 1-15-2004

ENG 3009-002: Myth and Culture

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MYTH AND CULTURE
Professor John Martone
Spring 2004, MWF 11:00, CH3290
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TEXTS
Chan, Chinese Philosophy
Chatwin, The Songlines
Ellison, Invisible Man
Kingston, The Woman Warrior
Meyerhoff, Peyote Hunt
Nguyen, The Tale of Kieu
Owen, An Anthology of Chinese Literature
Powers, Yuwipi
Rhodes, Outsider Art
Snyder, No Nature

EVALUATION

One of my goals is to involve you personally with the course materials. Much of the writing you will do in the course will not be academic in the traditional sense. Your completion of this work on the assigned dates will earn you up to the following:

Dream journal: 5 pts. if kept for week, up to 25 if kept for semester.
Churinga: 10 points
Ritual in American Life: 10 points.
Lao Tzu assignment 10 points
Mindfulness assignment: 10 points
Ellison’s pattern-making: 10 points

Additionally I will ask you to answer a total of 45 1-point short-answer questions about the reading, distributed over the semester. These may take the form of unannounced quizzes or longer (announced) examinations. I will reserve up to twenty questions for the final exam.

Nota Bene: I expect you to be in class, and attendance will a part in the calculation of your final grade. I will allow two absences, no questions asked. Each additional absence will cost you 5 points. Notes from Health services, the athletic department, or the Coles County Sheriff are fine as explanations but do not excuse you from the attendance requirement.

Final Grades: 95-100 points = A. 80-95 = B. 70-80 = C. 65-70 = D. 65 and below = F.
SCHEDULE

SEGMENT 1
Dream/Self/Culture

January 12, 14, 16: From Dream to Myth
   Short Films by Maya Deren
   Written work: dream journals

January 21, 23: Rhodes, Outsider Art

January 26, 28, 30: View and Discuss The Living Museum

February 2, 4, 6: Chatwin, The Songlines
   Written/ art work: Design a “Churinga”

February 9, 11: View and Discuss Whale Rider

February 16, 18, 20: Meyerhoff, Peyote Hunt

February 23, 25, 27: Powers, Yuwipi
   Written work: Ritual in American life.

SEGMENT 2
In and Around the Middle Kingdom

March 1, 3, 5: Chan, Lao Tzu
   Writing: Yin and Yang and daily life.

March 8, 10, 12: Readings from Chan and Owen TBA,
   Buddhism
   Writing: The practice of mindfulness.

March 15, 17, 19: SPRING BREAK

March 22, 24, 26: Tang and Song Dynasty Poets.
   Selections from Gary Snyder, No Nature.

March 29, 31, April 2: Nguyen Du, The Tale of Kieu

April 5, 7, 9: Kingston, The Woman Warrior

SEGMENT 3
America

April 12-30: Ellison, Invisible Man
   Written work: Ellison's pattern-making