Fall 8-15-1998

ENG 3009C-001-005: Myth and Culture

Martone  
Eastern Illinois University

Follow this and additional works at: http://thekeep.eiu.edu/english_syllabi_fall1998

Part of the English Language and Literature Commons

Recommended Citation
http://thekeep.eiu.edu/english_syllabi_fall1998/104

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the 1998 at The Keep. It has been accepted for inclusion in Fall 1998 by an authorized administrator of The Keep. For more information, please contact tabruns@eiu.edu.
Course Description.

Myth and Culture is an introduction to comparative mythology. We will explore the ways in which story, image, and poem have shaped the worldviews of a number of cultures, including our own. Themes and topics we will consider include: the nature of myth, the relation of language to experience, the varieties of religious experience, nature, gender, the culture-hero, the quest, death and transformation, the need for ritual, and the relation of personal dream to prophetic vision. In short, we will cover a lot of ground, all of it important. Ultimately, I hope you'll come to find and appreciate connections between our readings and your own ongoing story.

Texts.

Chatwin, The Songlines.  
Humphries, Ovid: The Metamorphoses.  
Kerouac, On the Road.  
Lau, Lao Tzu: Tao Te Ching.  
Meyerhoff, Peyote Hunt.  
Neihardt, Black Elk Speaks.  
Powers, Yuwipi.  
Rahula, What the Buddha Taught.  
Sandars, Gilgamesh.  
Sandmel, The New English Bible.  
Snyder, No Nature.

Requirements and Evaluation.

Regular attendance and participation. (You will be allowed 2 absences. I will lower your final grade by one letter for each unexcused absence thereafter.)

Response papers (there will be 3 or 4) and quizzes (25% of grade).

Mid-term and final examinations (50% of grade).

10-page final paper on an approved topic (25% of grade).

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

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

Schedule.

Week of:  
August 24, Preliminaries; Neihardt, Black Elk Speaks.  
August 31, Powers, Yuwipi.  
September 9, Meyerhoff, Peyote Hunt.  
September 14, Meyerhoff, cont'd. Begin Chatwin, The Songlines.  
September 21, Chatwin, The Songlines, cont'd.  
September 28, Sandars, Gilgamesh.  
October 5, New English Bible: Genesis.  
October 12, Mid-term Examination. Grene and Lattimore, Greek Tragedies: Sophocles, Theban Plays.  
October 19, Grene and Lattimore, Greek Tragedies: Euripides, Medea, The Bacchae.  
November 2, Rahula, What the Buddha Taught. Paper topics due.  
November 9, Conferences.  
November 16, Lau, Tao Te Ching.  
November 23, Thanksgiving Break.  
November 30, Kerouac, On the Road.  
December 7, Snyder, No Nature. Final papers due.