Purpose of the Course
The emphasis in this class will be on the persistence of myth. We will examine not only how similar stories manifest themselves in different cultures, but also how myths and their remnants are transformed over time to influence our ways of understanding the world today. In one section, for example, we will read Sophocles’ *Oedipus the King*, then move on to Freud’s interpretation of the myth in his formulation of the Oedipus Complex, then finish with a study of the film *Minority Report*. By the end of the semester, I expect you to have a better understanding of how myths function in shaping communal and individual belief systems, including your own.

Books and Materials
- *Monsters*. David Gilmore
- *Oedipus the King*. Sophocles (translation by Bragg)
- *World Mythology*. Donna Rosenberg

Requirements
1. Write two essays on various aspects of myth.
2. Submit 5 typed responses to questions and/or readings.
3. Take four quizzes.
4. Give an oral presentation with other class members.
5. Take a final exam.
6. Read the assigned material by the assigned date and participate in class discussions.

Attendance
We need your input 100% of the time because absences disturb the work of the whole class. In addition, many of the ideas used in your papers will be generated in class discussions or in-class writing, which is why it is vital that you come to each class session. I realize, however, that emergencies do occur. The attendance policy for this class, based on a point system, should allow for these emergencies. You get 5 points for attending every class session. Five multiplied by 30, the number of classes, equals 150 points.

NOTE: It is your responsibility to contact me or a fellow student to find out what you’ve missed.
Grade Breakdown
Response papers (5 in all, 30 points each) 150 points
Essay 1 150 points
Essay 2 200 points
Final exam 150 points
Four quizzes (25 pts. Each) 100 points
Oral Presentation 100 points
Attendance 5 pts. per day 150 points
TOTAL 1000 points

Course Grade
901-1000 points A
801-900 points B
701-800 points C
601-700 points D
0-600 points E

Evaluation of Essays
There will be particular criteria tailored to each assignment; we will discuss these in class. All final versions of written work must adhere to the conventions of Standard written English, follow proper format (see below), and have been carefully proofread.

Format for Papers
Type your assignments on standard-size paper. Double-space. NO extra spaces between paragraphs, please, and NO oversized fonts. In the upper left-hand corner of the first page, type your name, my last name, course, and date. No cover page, please.

Response Papers
Response papers will take the form of either answers to specific questions or the analysis of certain aspects of a work or passage. They should be 1-2 pages, typed (double-spaced is fine), and are due on the assigned dates. If circumstances prevent you from turning in a response paper during class, you may email it to as an attachment no later than 10PM that day. Late response papers will not be accepted.

Plagiarism
I adhere strictly to the English Department policy on plagiarism:
Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism has the right and the responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including a grade of F for the assigned essay and a grade of F for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office. Plagiarism is defined as “The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one’s original work” (Random House Dictionary of the English Language)

Writing Center
The Writing Center, located in room 3110 of Coleman Hall, gives you the opportunity to talk with a tutor about your writing, especially if you are having problems beginning a paper or know that you are weak in certain areas.

Electronic Writing Portfolio
You may use any paper from this class as a submission for your EWP (provided it meets the requirements for at least minimally competent.)

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES BEFORE COMING TO CLASS
## CLASS SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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| #1 | 08/22 | Introductions  
08/24 | Creation myths, pps. 571-573, 328-329 in Rosenberg, and handouts |
| #2 | 08/29 | Monsters, pps. 23-46  
08/31 | Gilgamesh, Chapters 1-4 (in Rosenberg book) |
| #3 | 09/05 | Gilgamesh, Chapters 6-ending  
09/07 | Response Paper #1 due  
09/07 | Short film/discussion |
| #4 | 09/12 | Quiz 1 (Gilgamesh)  
09/14 | Introduction to Oedipus |
| #5 | 09/19 | Oedipus  
09/21 | Response Paper #2  
09/21 | Oedipus |
| #6 | 09/26 | Movie  
09/28 | Movie |
| #7 | 10/03 | Quiz 2 (Oedipus)  
10/05 | Monsters, 47-74  
10/07 | Beowulf, 381-386  
10/07 | **Paper #1 due** |
| #8 | 10/10 | Beowulf, 386-405  
10/12 | Response Paper #3  
10/12 | Beowulf, 406-417 |
| #9 | 10/17 | Movie  
10/19 | Movie |
| #10 | 10/24 | Cyclops (handout)  
10/26 | Quiz 3 (Beowulf) |
| #11 | 10/31 | Kotan Utunnai (339-350)  
11/02 | Chi Li Slays the Serpent (330); Amaterasu (335)  
11/02 | Response Paper #4 |
| #12 | 11/07 | Movie  
11/09 | Movie |
#13 11/14 Quiz 4 (Readings from week 11 and movie)
11/16 Response Paper #5

THANKSGIVING

#14 11/28 Readings from Monsters
11/30 Readings from Monsters
Paper #2 due

#15 12/05 Oral Presentations
12/07 Oral Presentations

NOTE: I may make minor changes to this syllabus in order to suit the needs of the class. Changes will always be announced in advance.