Course Number and Title: Engl 2185 Classical Mythology

Semester/Year: Mini-semester Summer 2006

Credit Hours: 3

Class Time: Days: M-F 9:00 a.m. – 12 p.m. AD 286

Instructor’s Name: Tammy Frankland
Office: AD 180
Office Phone: 268-2495 (voice mail is available)
Email: tfrankland@caspercollege.edu (Do not email assignments)

Office Hours: By appointment

Required Materials:

1. Thury, Eva M. and Margaret K. Devinney. Introduction to Mythology: Contemporary Approaches To Classical and World Myths

Prerequisites: Successful completion of English 1020 or 1120. Students must possess collegiate level writing skills and independent research skills.

General Objectives: Upon successful completion of this class, students will have:

1. improved reading comprehension and critical reading abilities,
2. learned to analyze literature critically,
3. increased their awareness of human values, attitudes, and behavior,
4. learned to appreciate classical myths and legends and the world in which they function,
5. recognized the stories, function and history of the Greek (Roman and other cultures) gods and goddesses as time allows,
6. familiarized themselves with the family relationships, narratives, and history as well as literary accounts of classical (Western and non-Western) myths and legends,
7. studied and applied various academic theories about myths through lectures, films, and Joseph Campbell’s The Power of Myth video series,
8. demonstrated collegiate level writing.

Course Description: This is a reading intensive course that explores the roots of classical mythology by focusing on the changing nature of the gods and goddesses and their relationship to humanity. This study of heroes, myths, and legends of the past is compared to the mythologies of later Western and non-Western cultures.

Attendance Policy: Since this course meets 14 times, my expectation is that you attend all class sessions. No absences are “excused.” Due to the short time frame, should an emergency arise, you must withdraw from this class. Attending class (well-prepared) is crucial to your success. No make-up work will be allowed for activities completed during the class. Arriving to class late or leaving class early is an absence.

Late Work Policy: For obvious reasons, late work is not graded.

Grades: Each major component listed below is important; deficiency in any of the areas could affect a student’s final grade by as much as three letter grades. An average of all completed work is computed at the end of the semester as follows:
Participation, quizzes (announced and unannounced), discussion leader, in class work, group work = 20%
Three, formal 2 page essays = 30%
Research Paper = 30%
Final Exam = 20%
Total = 100%  A= 90-100 B = 80-89 C= 70-79 D= 60-69 F= >59

Rights and Responsibilities: Refer to Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code for student information. Cell phones and pagers must be turned off and put away during class time.

Academic Dishonesty: Plagiarism or academic dishonesty could result in an F for this course and subsequent disciplinary action by college officials.

Chain of Command: If you have any problems with this class, you should first contact the instructor in order to solve the problem. If you are not satisfied with the solution offered by the instructor, you should then take your problem through the appropriate chain of command starting with the department head, then the division chair, and lastly the vice president of academic affairs.

Special Needs: It is the policy of Casper College to provide appropriate accommodations to any student with a documented disability. If you have a need for accommodation in this course, please make an appointment to see me at your earliest convenience.

Last Date to Withdraw/Audit: Friday, May 26, 2006

THE INSTRUCTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ALTER THE SYLLABUS AND SCHEDULE AT ANY TIME FOR ANY REASON.

Tentative Schedule: Reading should be completed before the class meeting. You are responsible for the information in all of the scheduled readings whether it is discussed in class or not.

T= Thury and Devinney

Week 1

5/22 Course Introduction – Syllabus and Expectations
Introduction to mythology
Joseph Campbell Program 1 The Hero’s Adventure

5/23 T-- Ch 1 What is Myth? pp. 3-15
T – Ch 2 Ways of Understanding Myth pp. 16-22
T – Ch 2A Myths of Creation and Destruction pp. 23-25
T – Ch 3 Greek Creation Stories pp. 27-44

5/24 T – Ch 17 Oedipus the King pp. 217-268
T – Ch 22 Prometheus: The Greek Trickster pp. 358-364
T – Ch 25 Demeter and Persephone pp. 393-412

5/25 T – Ch 29 Heracles and Dionysus pp. 462-481
T – Ch 26 Isis and Osiris pp. 413-428
Joseph Campbell Program 5 Love and the Goddess

5/26 Essay 1 due
The Odyssey
T – Ch 12 The Hero With A Thousand Faces pp. 135-142

Week 2
5/29  Memorial Day No class

5/30  **Library session (meet in PS 325)**
T -- Ch 5 Biblical Creation Stories pp. 53-60
T -- Ch 10 Biblical Flood Stories pp. 110-117

5/31  **Research proposal essay due**
T – Ch 6 The Prose Edda’s Creation Stories pp. 61-72
T – Ch 9 Ragnarok pp. 103-109
T – Ch 16 Heroes in the Prose Edda pp. 202-216

6/1  **Essay 2 due**
Joseph Campbell Program 3 The First Story Tellers
T – Ch 30 *Man and His Symbols* Carl Jung
T – Ch 31 How to Perform a Jungian Analysis of a Myth or Fairy Tale

6/2  **Workshop for research papers**
T – Ch 36 Using Multiple Analyses To Highlight Different Aspects of the Same Tale pp. 583-595
T – Ch 18 The Structural Study of Myth pp. 269-287

Week 3
6/5  T – Ch 13 The Epic of Gilgamesh pp. 143-173
T – Ch 14 A Levi-Straussian Analysis of The Epic of Gilgamesh pp. 174-185
Joseph Campbell Program 2 *The Message of the Myth*

6/6  T – Ch 23 Look Back at Heroes: The Different Versions of Myth pp. 365-371
*Whale Rider* film

6/7  **Essay 3 due**
T – Ch 7 Native American Creation Stories from the Southwestern United States pp. 73-86
T – Ch 19 Raven: A Native American Trickster pp. 288-298
T – Ch 40 Mythological Themes in Native American Literature

6/8  T – Ch 8 African Creation Stories pp. 87-95
T – Ch 21 African and African-American Trickster Stories pp. 341-357
T—Chapter 24 Ritual—Victor Turner

6/9  **Research paper due**
Final exam