

Anthropology 2G03 Readings in Indo-European Myth, 2018

Instructor: Dr. John Colarusso, 532 CNH, ext. 23902, colaruss@mcmaster.ca

Office hours: CNH 532, M 11:30, W 12:30

Prerequisites: 3 units of level one Anthropology

Three hours of lecture each week.

Objective: To acquaint the student with the major gods and themes in the myths of the Indo-European peoples of Europe and Asia.

Texts:

Hansen, William *Classical Mythology*, Oxford [This is the text for Greek myth.]

Freeman, Philip *Celtic Mythology*, Oxford

Kevin Crossley-Holland *The Norse Myths*. Penguin

Wendy Doniger *The Rig Veda*. Penguin

Colarusso, John *Lecture Notes for Anthropology 2G03, Readings in Indo-European Myth*

Books for further interest:

Tacitus *The Germania and Agricola*. Penguin

H. R. Ellis Davidson *Gods and Myths of Northern Europe*. Penguin

Jeffrey Gantz, *Early Irish Myths and Sagas*. Penguin

Thomas Kinsella (1969) *The Tain*. Oxford.

Jeffrey Gantz, *The Mabinogion*. Penguin

Sir Thomas Malory (1979) *Le morte d'Arthur*. Penguin.

Richard P. Martin, (2003), *Myths of the Ancient Greeks*. Penguin Putnam.

Hamilton, Edith *Mythology*. Penguin [This is the text for Greek myth.]

Wendy O'Flaherty (1975) *Hindu Myths*. Penguin.

John Colarusso (2002) *Nart Sagas from the Caucasus: Myths of the Circassians, Abazas, Abkhaz, and Ubykhs*. Princeton University Press.

John Colarusso (2016) *Tales of the Narts, Ossetian Nart Stories*. Princeton University Press

Walter Beltz *God and the Gods*. Penguin

Alan Dundes (ed.) *Sacred Narrative*. University of California Press

David Adams Leeming *The World of Myth*. Oxford

C. Scott Littleton *The New Comparative Mythology*. University of California Press C.

Scott Littleton and Linda Malcor *From Scythia to Camelot*. Garland

J. P. Mallory *In Search of the Indo-Europeans*. Thames and Hudson.

Jaán Puhvel (1987) *Comparative Mythology*. The University of Chicago Press.

Grades: These are based entirely upon four one hour examinations (25% each). These will follow each of the four myth traditions (corpora). Each examination will consist of 33 multiple-choice questions and will be electronically scanned. Exams might be held during lecture hours.

Topical Outline:

(1) Introduction: the nature of myth, Eurasian myth, the Indo-Europeans, the Finno-Ugrians, the Semitic peoples,(one week)

(2) Germanic myth (Crossley-Holland) (three weeks)

Test on Germanic myth, early October.

(3) Celtic myth (Freeman)(three weeks)

Test on Celtic myth, late October

(5) Ancient Greece (Hansen) (three weeks)

Test on Greek myth, mid November

(6) India, the *Rig Veda* (Doniger)(two weeks)

Test on *Rig Veda* will be scheduled for examination period.

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check his/her McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Academic dishonesty consists of misrepresentation by deception or by other fraudulent means and can result in serious consequences, e.g., the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: “Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty”), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various kinds of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, Appendix 3, www.mcmaster.ca/senate/academic/ac_integrity.htm

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism, e.g., the submission of work that is not one’s own for which other credit has been obtained. (*Insert specific course information, e.g., style guide*)
2. Improper collaboration in group work. (*Insert specific course information*)
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

(If applicable) In this course we will be using a software package designed to reveal plagiarism. Students will be required to submit their work electronically and in hard copy so that it can be checked for academic dishonesty.

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES E-MAIL COMMUNICATION POLICY

Effective September 1, 2010, it is the policy of the Faculty of Social Sciences that all e-mail communication sent from students to instructors (including TAs), and from students to staff, must originate from the student's own McMaster University e-mail account. This policy protects confidentiality and confirms the identity of the student. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that communication is sent to the university from a McMaster account. If an instructor becomes aware that a communication has come from an alternate address, the instructor may not reply at his or her discretion.

Email Forwarding in MUGSI:

<http://www.mcmaster.ca/uts/support/email/emailforward.html>

*Forwarding will take effect 24-hours after students complete the process at the above link (Approved at the Faculty of Social Sciences meeting on Tues. May 25, 2010.)

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students who require academic accommodation must contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. Academic accommodations must be arranged for each term of study. Student Accessibility Services can be contacted by phone 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or e-mail sas@mcmaster.ca. For further information, consult McMaster University's Policy for [Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities](#).

McMASTER STUDENT ABSENCE FORM (MSAF) POLICY

In the event of an absence for medical or other reasons, students should review and follow the Academic Regulation in the Undergraduate Calendar "Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work". Please note these regulations have changed beginning Spring/Summer 2015. If you have any questions about the MSAF, please contact your Associate Dean's office. http://academiccalendars.romcmaster.ca/content.php?catoid=11&navoid=1698#Requests_for_Relief_for_Missed_Academic_Term_Work

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION FOR RELIGIOUS, INDIGENOUS OR SPIRITUAL OBSERVANCES (RISO)

Students requiring academic accommodation based on religious, indigenous or spiritual observances should follow the procedures set out in the RISO policy. Students requiring a RISO accommodation should submit their request to their Faculty Office normally within 10 working days of the beginning of term in which they anticipate a need for accommodation or to the Registrar's Office prior to their examinations. Students should also contact their instructors as soon as possible to make alternative arrangements for classes, assignments, and tests.

AODA

If you require this information in an alternate/accessible format, please contact Marcia Furtado at 905-525-9140 extension 24423 or email furtam1@mcmaster.ca