

Anthropology 2G03 Readings in Indo-European Myth

Fall 2021

Instructor: Dr. John Colarusso

Office hours: By e-mail: colaruss@mcmaster.ca

Prerequisites: Registration in level II or higher in any program

Contents

Course Description.....	2
Course Objectives.....	2
Required Materials and Texts	2
Class Format.....	2
Course Evaluation – Overview.....	2
Course Evaluation – Details.....	2
Weekly Course Schedule and Required Readings	2
Week 1 (Dates).....	2
Week 2 (Dates).....	2
Week 3 (Dates).....	2
Week 4 (Dates).....	2
Week 5 (Dates).....	3
Week 6 (Dates).....	3
Week 7 (Dates).....	3
Week 8 (Dates).....	3
Week 9 (Dates).....	3
Week 10 (Dates).....	3
Week 11 (Dates).....	3
Week 12 (Dates).....	3
Course Policies	3
Grades.....	3
Late Assignments	3
Absences, Missed Work, Illness	3
Avenue to Learn	3
University Policies	4

Faculty of Social Sciences E-mail Communication Policy	5
Course Modification.....	6
Approved Advisory Statements.....	6

Course Description/Objectives:

This course acquaints the student with the major gods and themes in the myths of the Indo-European peoples of Europe and Asia.

This course will be given virtually and is asynchronous, with the exception of exams, which are held synchronously during one of our class times on Mosaic (Monday/Thursday 9:30-10:20 or Tuesday 10:30-11:20 p.m.). Please see the schedule below for test dates.

Lectures are provided in a coursepack, noted under Texts. These will be available for downloading on the course site in A2L.

Recorded lectures will be posted on A2L.

Required Materials and 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* (optional)

These books are available at the University's bookstore, Titles.

Course format: Asynchronous lectures and synchronous tests.

Course evaluation: Evaluation is based entirely upon four 50 minute examinations (25% each).

Course evaluation (details): The four exams will follow each of the four myth traditions (corpora). Each on-line examination will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions and will be electronically graded.

Topical Outline:

Week 1: Week of September 6

Topic: Introduction: the nature of myth, Eurasian myth, the Indo-Europeans, the Finno-Ugrians, the Semitic peoples

Weeks 2,3 and 4: (Weeks of September 13, 20 and 27)

Topic: Germanic myth

Reading: Crossley-Holland

Test: Thursday September 30 on Germanic myth

Week 5 (Week of October 4): Topic: Celtic myth

Readings: Read Freeman

Week of October 11: Reading Week. No classes.

Weeks 6-7: (Weeks of October 18 and 25)

Topic: Celtic myth, con't

Readings: Read Freeman.

Test: Thursday October 28 on Celtic myth

Weeks 8, 9, 10 (Weeks of November 1, 8, 15)

Topic: Ancient Greek myth

Readings: Read Hansen

Test: Thursday November 18 on Ancient Greek myth

Weeks 11 and 12 (Weeks of November 22 and 29)

Topic: India, the *Rig_Veda*

Reading: Read Doniger

Test: Tuesday November 30 on Vedic myth

COURSE POLICIES

Grades

Grades will be based on the McMaster University grading scale:

MARK	GRADE
90-100	A+
85-90	A
80-84	A-
77-79	B+
73-76	B
70-72	B-
67-69	C+
63-66	C
60-62	C-
57-59	D+
53-56	D
50-52	D-
0-49	F

Absences, Missed Work, Illnesses

Because all tests are worth 25%, you cannot use an MSAF. If you miss a test, please contact your faculty office to request an MSAF exception. You will be asked to provide documentation for this.

Avenue to Learn

In this course we will be using Avenue to Learn. Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of this course, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in this course will be

deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss this with the course instructor.

University Policies

Online Elements

This course includes on-line elements (e.g. e-mail, Avenue to Learn (A2L), LearnLink, web pages, capa, Moodle, ThinkingCap, etc.). Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of a course using these elements, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in a course that uses on-line elements will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss this with the course instructor.

Copyright and Recording

Students are advised that lectures, demonstrations, performances, and any other course material provided by an instructor include copyright protected works. The Copyright Act and copyright law protect every original literary, dramatic, musical and artistic work, **including lectures** by University instructors

The recording of lectures, tutorials, or other methods of instruction may occur during a course. Recording may be done by either the instructor for the purpose of authorized distribution, or by a student for the purpose of personal study. Students should be aware that their voice and/or image may be recorded by others during the class. Please speak with the instructor if this is a concern for you.

Academic Integrity Statement

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behavior in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity.

Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behaviour 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. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the [Academic Integrity Policy](https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/university-policies-procedures-guidelines/), located at <https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/university-policies-procedures-guidelines/>

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one's own or for which credit has been obtained.
2. Improper collaboration in group work.
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

Authenticity/Plagiarism Detection

Some courses may use a web-based service (Turnitin.com) to reveal authenticity and ownership of student submitted work. For courses using such software, students will be expected to submit their work electronically either directly to Turnitin.com or via an

online learning platform (e.g. A2L, etc.) using plagiarism detection (a service supported by Turnitin.com) so it can be checked for academic dishonesty.

Students who do not wish their work to be submitted through the plagiarism detection software must inform the Instructor before the assignment is due. No penalty will be assigned to a student who does not submit work to the plagiarism detection software. All submitted work is subject to normal verification that standards of academic integrity have been upheld (e.g., on-line search, other software, etc.). For more details about McMaster's use of Turnitin.com please go to www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity.

Conduct Expectations

As a McMaster student, you have the right to experience, and the responsibility to demonstrate, respectful and dignified interactions within all of our living, learning and working communities. These expectations are described in the Code of Student Rights & Responsibilities (the "Code"). All students share the responsibility of maintaining a positive environment for the academic and personal growth of all McMaster community members, whether in person or online.

It is essential that students be mindful of their interactions online, as the Code remains in effect in virtual learning environments. The Code applies to any interactions that adversely affect, disrupt, or interfere with reasonable participation in University activities. Student disruptions or behaviours that interfere with university functions on online platforms (e.g. use of Avenue 2 Learn, WebEx or Zoom for delivery), will be taken very seriously and will be investigated. Outcomes may include restriction or removal of the involved students' access to these platforms.

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.

Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities who require academic accommodation must contact [Student Accessibility Services](#) (SAS) at 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or sas@mcmaster.ca to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. For further information, consult McMaster University's [Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities](#) policy.

Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work

McMaster Student Absence Form (MSAF): 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". [https://academiccalendars.romcmaster.ca/content.php?catoid=11&navoid=1698#Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work](https://academiccalendars.romcmaster.ca/content.php?catoid=11&navoid=1698#Requests%20for%20Relief%20for%20Missed%20Academic%20Term%20Work)

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 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.

Privacy Protection

In accordance with regulations set out by the Freedom of Information and Privacy Protection Act, the University will not allow return of graded materials by placing them in boxes in departmental offices or classrooms so that students may retrieve their papers themselves; tests and assignments must be returned directly to the student. Similarly, grades for assignments for courses may only be posted using the last 5 digits of the student number as the identifying data. The following possibilities exist for return of graded materials:

1. Direct return of materials to students in class;
2. Return of materials to students during office hours;
3. Students attach a stamped, self-addressed envelope with assignments for return by mail;
4. Submit/grade/return papers electronically.

Arrangements for the return of assignments from the options above will be finalized during the first class.

Extreme Circumstances

The University reserves the right to change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances (e.g., severe weather, labour disruptions, etc.). Changes will be communicated through regular McMaster communication channels, such as McMaster Daily News, A2L and/or McMaster email.