I. Instructor Information
Name: Jonathan Purkiss
Office: CHARTS 450 (Main)
Office hours: MW (12-2) / TR (8-12) / F (8-12)
Telephone: 501-812-2794
Mailbox location: Dept. of Fine Arts and Humanities
Email: jpurkiss@uaptc.edu
Remind Messaging: Text the message @mrpurkiss to the number 81010 on your smartphone.

II. Catalog Description
This course provides a general overview of mythology and its relationship to ancient and contemporary cultures. It covers the different purposes and types of myths; the development of myths and mythological characters; the primary characteristics of deities and heroes in myth.
Prerequisites: ENGL 1311 and ENGL 1312 (English Composition I and II) with a grade of “C” or better in ENGL 1312. (3 credit hours).

III. Course Resources
Also Required: A personal e-mail address (not shared, checked regularly). Access to a computer with Internet access and word processor.

IV. Institutional Learning Outcomes
UA-PTC supports a college-wide institutional learning assessment program which concerns effective instructional methods and promotes student learning achievement by assessing:
1. Communication
2. Critical Thinking
3. Cultural Awareness
4. Information Literacy
5. Professionalism
6. Quantitative Literacy
7. Technology Literacy
For more information, please consult the following website:
http://www.pulaskitech.edu/sla/mission.asp

V. Department/Program Learning Outcomes
The English department, consistent with the College’s mission and the Division’s objectives, encourages the success of its students in all technical fields and academic disciplines by promoting:
1. Critical and creative thought
2. Effective argumentation with a focus on tone, purpose and audience
3. Academic Integrity
4. Independent thinking and learning
5. Written communication on a collegiate level
6. Exposure to various cultures and subcultures
7. The influence of culture on individuals and their work
8. Collaborative study and writing

VI. Course Outcomes

The student will:
1. Understand significant literary and cultural developments in world civilizations.
2. Understand the interaction of various literary and cultural traditions.
3. Achieve familiarity with enduring expressions of human thought by studying world mythology, including the study of how they function in society and cultures.
4. Complete a significant analytical writing component.

Students will study a variety of myths from around the world. The class will require students to read and discuss primary and secondary sources critically, with an awareness of cultural and historical significance. Students will write a minimum of 15 pages total in analytical assignments that will be divided between a number of shorter responses and at least one longer analytical research essay. Students will demonstrate good scholarship by using the conventions of MLA style and documentation. Midterm/final/unit tests will cover content of selected readings, general factual knowledge of history and culture for each unit, and some interpretation of excerpts from the readings.

VII. Attendance Policy

Agencies granting financial assistance may be notified of the violation of the attendance policy by students receiving financial aid. Attendance is taken starting the first day of the semester, with the exception of students who enroll after classes have started.

Any student who misses two consecutive weeks of class may be administratively withdrawn from the class. Any student who does not attend class within the first two weeks of class will be considered a “no show” according to the campus attendance policy and will be reported as such and dropped from the class.

Due to federal law, in an online class, eligibility for financial aid is now based on student participation. Logging in to the course does not constitute participation. Examples of participation include, but are not limited to, posting to the discussion board, submitting an assignment, taking an assessment, or emailing the instructor about the course. Students who do not participate will not be able to collect financial aid for an online class.

If you miss two full weeks of logins (14 days) or you do not participate in the class for two full weeks (14 days) by either posting on the blog or discussion board, taking an test, submitting an assignment, or e-mailing the instructor (in the case of extenuating circumstances), then you may be dropped from the class for “non-attendance.”

IMPORTANT! - Any student who does not login or does not complete at least Unit 1 within the first two weeks of class will be considered a “no show” in accordance with the campus attendance policy and will be reported as such.

I am willing to work reasonably with you to help you in the event of extenuating circumstances, but ultimately you are responsible for any missed work and whatever penalties might be a result of these circumstances. If you have extenuating circumstances that will prevent you from completing units by the due date, you should contact me as soon as possible to alert me to the
situation (or have a family member contact me) to make arrangements for assignments and other missed work and provide a time frame to get back on track with the class. In this event, you should also submit proper documentation to me regarding the extenuating circumstances.

All students will be held to the same policies and requirements regarding missed work, class participation, types of assignments, and grading criteria as other students, regardless of extenuating circumstances. I may make exceptions regarding the late work policy based on the nature of the extenuating circumstances and academic performance in the course up that point.

VIII. Classroom Policies

The UA-PTC Catalogue rules and regulations will be enforced in this class at all times. Please consult the following website for more information:

http://www.pulaskitech.edu/admission/web_catalog/

Professional behavior is required. Punctual attendance and intelligent participation are expected. Particulars as determined by the instructor are detailed in the paragraph below.

The UA-PTC Student Handbook rules and regulations will be enforced in this class at all times. Professional behavior is required. Intelligent and polite participation are expected. I expect you to know how to be a good student prior to coming into this class. Appropriate behavior is expected for all communications, including any notes, email messages, or telephone conversations. Some guidelines for communication are included in this syllabus to help you. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Do not cheat or plagiarize. If you are caught cheating or plagiarizing, you will automatically be given the grade “F” for the assignment and may be assigned a failing grade for the course as well. Any plagiarized paper will receive a zero and the student may be immediately dropped from the class with a final grade of “F”. “Plagiarism” would be noted on the official drop slip. Any evidence of cheating on exams will be handled in the same manner; students will receive a zero on the exam and may be immediately dropped from the class with a final grade of “F”. “Cheating” would be noted on the official drop slip. I reserve the right to handle incidents of suspected cheating and plagiarism on a case-by-case basis as I see fit.

- Please be respectful on the discussion boards or when commenting on the blog posts of others. All students are expected to be considerate and respectful of others and their opinions. All posts should be relevant to the topic being discussed. Respond to others as you would them to respond to your posts.
  - No messages meant to harass, humiliate, defame, or threaten another student will be tolerated.
  - No messages that contain spam or pornographic images or links will be tolerated.
  - Do not type in all caps. Such posts are hard to read and may be considered yelling.
  - Do not plagiarize your discussion posts. Credit sources when appropriate.

- Please note that I do not tolerate disruptive or rude students. I will listen to any concerns you might have about the course in private; please do not publicly voice them on the discussion boards.

*NOTE: The instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus concerning policy changes at any time during the semester. Students will be notified promptly if changes to the syllabus are made.
IX. Grading

Letter grades will be based on the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Course requirements</th>
<th>Rough % of final grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90 to 100%</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>The Final Paper</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 to 89%</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Quizzes and Tests</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70 to 79%</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Blog Posts</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 to 69%</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 to 59%</td>
<td>F</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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You will be assessed in this course through the following types of assignments:

- Tests
- Blog Posts
- Class Participation
- The Final Paper

**Grading Policy:** I usually grade all assignments in the course within seven days of original submission. Class participation is typically updated every 14 days. You can view all grades and feedback via the My Grades link in the course.

A. Quizzes (Points variable)

Most of the units have short quizzes and tests that assess your knowledge of the works, reading comprehension, and background information. The quizzes and tests are all multiple choice. All quizzes are timed. Make sure to read all reading assignments, including all associated lecture notes, before you attempt to take a unit quiz or test.

Instructions for the quizzes and tests are available under the link for Unit Quizzes in Unit 1. Please read all instructions before taking unit quizzes.

B. Blog Posts (10 points each)

You will be required to post to a blog for the class each week throughout the semester. The blog is meant to encourage critical thinking, close reading, and deeper analysis of the assigned reading. Each blog post is worth a possible 10 points. Throughout the semester, I will pose questions in units that you can respond to on the blog (look for the blue links to the blog in each unit). Do not post responses if you have not read the assigned texts.

You will also **NOT** receive credit if you **PLAGIARIZE** any post by copying and pasting from the Internet, from my introductory or lecture notes, or copying off another student's post. I will grade each blog posts within a week of its submission. You can view your score on each blog post and my comments on the posts by clicking the My Grades link.

Instructions and deadlines for blog posts are available under the link for Blog Posts in Unit 1. Please read all instructions before posting to the blog.

C. Class Participation (5 points for each blog assignment)

In addition to posting to the blogs, you will need to participate with others in the class by commenting on what others have written on their blogs. This is to facilitate class discussion on the texts. For each blog assignment, you will be expected to post a response to another classmate’s blog post in the Comments section below the post. Please be polite when commenting on other students' posts. Rude or inappropriate comments will be erased and could result in point deductions or even disciplinary action. You will have one week after the deadline of each blog assignment(s) to post a comment for that blog though you are free to also comment on any blog post before its deadline, too.

Instructions for class participation are available under the link for Class Participation in Unit 1. Please read all instructions before commenting on the blogs.
E. The Final Paper (100 points)

At the end of this course, you will submit a final paper. The paper is an opportunity for me to see if you fully understand the work and have thought critically about what you read. Because of this, the final paper is worth a possible 100 points. You will need to practice good time management and plan ahead to submit paper by the due date listed on the class schedule. Do not wait until the last minute.

Further instructions and the deadline for the Final Paper are available in Unit 12. Please read all instructions before beginning work on the Final Paper.

X. Academic Integrity

It is expected that all students who attend UA-PTC conduct themselves in a manner appropriate for the college experience. Academic integrity is a vital component of collegiate behavior. The UA-PTC catalogue states, “The gaining of knowledge and the practice of honesty go hand-in-hand.” The catalogue also states, “The responsibility and authority of initiating discipline arising from violations of the rules against dishonesty during the process of the course are vested in the instructor of that course.” The complete Academic Integrity Policy can be found in the UA-PTC code of conduct.

XI. Accommodation Policy

Services for Students with Disabilities: UA-PTC is committed to fulfilling all federal requirements as stated in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Accommodations are available to students who have documented disabilities. Students who request accommodations must register with the Coordinator of Disability Services in Counseling Services (501-812-2220 or www.pulaskitech.edu) prior to the semester of planned enrollment, and must provide recent documentation of medical, educational, and/or psychological records. Students who need accommodations should inform the instructor at the beginning of the course. Accommodations will only be provided if the instructor receives a letter of approved accommodations from the Coordinator of Disability Services. Failure to provide sufficient notification may result in a delay of services.

XII. Sexual Misconduct

No person at Pulaski Technical College will, on the basis of gender, be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to sex discrimination, sexual harassment or sexual misconduct under any education program or activity. All college administrative policies and procedures regarding sex discrimination, sexual harassment, and sexual misconduct are in compliance with Title IX. Students who feel they are victims of sexual misconduct should contact the UA-PTC Title IX Deputy Coordinator for Students:

Michelle Anderson, Dean of Students
Campus Center Building Room 212
501-812-2756
manderson@pulaskitech.edu

Additional information, including the UA-PTC sexual assault policy, procedures, and resources may be found online at http://www.pulaskitech.edu/sexual_misconduct_awareness/.

XIII. Course Evaluations

Students may be asked to evaluate their instructor and course near the end of the semester. These student evaluations are very important to the improvement in the quality of instruction and course materials. All results are anonymous and shared with the faculty only after the semester is over and grades have been posted.

XIV. Information Literacy
UA-PTC is committed to the Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education as established by the Association of College and Research Libraries and endorsed by the National Forum on Information Literacy. Therefore, all courses will incorporate an information literacy component so that, by graduation, all students will be able to recognize the need for information, then locate, evaluate, synthesize, and communicate information in an ethical manner. Information literacy encompasses critical thinking, research, media, technology, health, business, and visual literacy skills to produce lifelong learners who can make informed decisions in the workplace and in their personal lives.

XV. Course Schedule

In order to successfully pass this course, you will need to complete all units in the course. Everything you need for the course is located in the units, including lecture notes, tests, blog post instructions, and the essay assignment. Each unit is designed to build on the skills and knowledge contained in the unit before it, so you will be expected to take the units in order. Try not to skip around.

The first two units are designed to prepare you to take the course, including information on how to read literature critically. The first two units consist only of notes and tests. A later unit (Unit 12) covers how to write your final paper for the course.

The rest of the units are instructional and cover individual mythological systems. Some of these units are further subdivided into two parts to compensate for longer works. To complete these divided units, you will need to complete each part in order and then complete the overall task for the unit (a short test). Don’t worry – detailed instructions are located in each unit.

Note: All deadlines in the course are on Thursdays throughout the semester. You will need to plan ahead to meet each week’s deadline.

The following schedule is a rough guide for you to pace yourself throughout the semester. Some of you may work faster or slower depending on your reading skills. Do not let yourself get behind. This is a general outline of the readings you will do for this class. Please look for specific reading assignments in each unit as well as the lecture notes. The unit’s instructions will list all volume and page numbers as well. However, you will need to use the online course’s calendar and unit modules to keep up with specific due dates.

Tuesday, Jan. 16 – Thursday, Jan. 25

• Units 1 & 2 - Course Introduction and Introduction to Mythology

Friday, Jan. 26 – Thursday, Feb. 1

• Unit 3 – Egyptian / Babylonian Mythology – Story of Osiris, Isis, and Horus/ Enuma elish

Friday, Feb. 2 – Thursday, Feb. 8

• Unit 4 – Sumerian Mythology - Gilgamesh

Friday, Feb. 9 – Thursday, Feb. 15

• Unit 5.1 – Greek and Roman Mythology - Part One: The Gods, the Creation, and the Earliest Heroes

Friday, Feb. 16 – Thursday, Feb. 22

• Unit 5.2 – Greek and Roman Mythology - Part Two: Stories of Love and Adventure

Friday, Feb. 23 – Thursday, Mar. 1

• Unit 5.3 – Greek and Roman Mythology - Part Three: The Great Heroes before the Trojan War

Friday, Mar. 2 – Thursday, Mar. 8

• Unit 5.4 – Greek and Roman Mythology - Part Four: The Heroes of the Trojan War
Friday, Mar. 9 – Thursday, Mar. 15
• Unit 6 – Norse Mythology

Friday, Mar. 16 – Thursday, Mar. 22
• Spring Break

Friday, Mar. 23 – Thursday, Mar. 29
• Unit 7 – Hindu Mythology - Ramayana

Friday, Mar. 30 – Thursday, Apr. 5
• Unit 8 – Far Eastern and Polynesian Mythology

Friday, Apr. 6 – Thursday, Apr. 12
• Unit 9 – African Mythology

Friday, Apr. 13 – Thursday, Apr. 19
• Unit 10 – Mesoamerican Mythology

Friday, Apr. 20 – Thursday, Apr. 26
• Unit 11 - Native American Mythology

Friday, Apr. 27 – Thursday, May 3
• Unit 12 – The Final Paper – due by midnight on Thursday, May 10

Disclaimer: I reserve the right to amend the schedule as necessary throughout the semester.

XVI. Plagiarism

It is expected that all writing that you submit in a class is your own original work, and that any sources of information that you consult are fully cited and properly integrated into your writing.

If you are caught copying and pasting off the Internet or any other form of intentional plagiarism, I will automatically assign you a failing grade for the assignment and may also assign you a failing grade for the course as well. You will also be reported to the Dean of Students as a plagiarist and the incident will be permanently placed on your academic record.

You have nothing to fear as long as you follow instructions, cite your sources properly according to MLA format, and handle those sources responsibly when you use them in your paper. This includes the primary text, any possible secondary sources, and all introductory and lecture notes.

Regardless of intent, any paper that contains any form of plagiarism will earn a 0% for the assignment. Most plagiarism is accidental and results from mishandling of research or inadequate citations.

Examples of accidental plagiarism include:
• word-for-word copying from any source without the use of quotation marks;
• failure to completely cite all quoted, summarized, or paraphrased material from a presented source;
• improper paraphrasing (i.e., paraphrased information that retains the grammatical structure and/or vocabulary of the original source).

In the case that any student plagiarizes information with the intent of cheating on a writing assignment, the instructor may choose a more severe penalty at their discretion. Examples of blatant plagiarism include:
• submitting any amount of material from the Internet or another outside source as if it is the student’s original composition;

• copying material from a source with no attempt at using quotation marks and/or citation of the source;

• paraphrasing material from a source with no attempt at documentation of the source;

• reuse of material from previous classes without the instructor’s express permission;

• simultaneously using material from another class without the permission of both instructors involved;

• buying papers;

• letting others write part or all of a paper; and

• all other instances in which the student attempts to circumvent creating an original composition for that assignment and/or attempts to deceive the audience about the sources used when composing the assignment.

You should review the information about plagiarism in textbooks and the Academic Integrity Policy in the UA-PTC Student Handbook, as it is your responsibility to demonstrate good scholarship in your writing.