

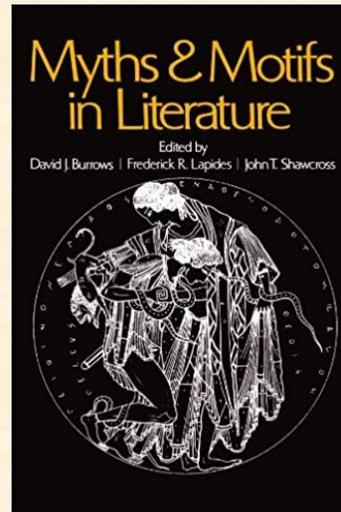
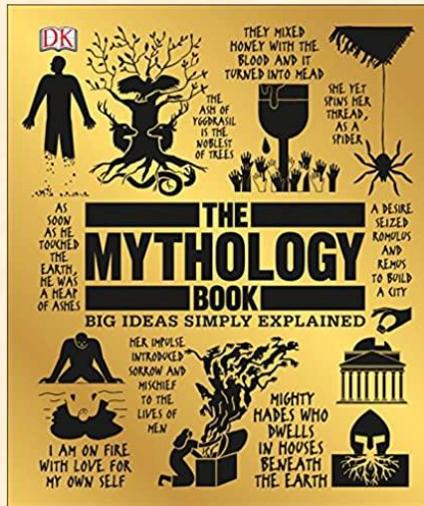
BRIEF, ADVANCE NOTICE COURSE DESCRIPTION

SUMMER 2021

ENGLISH 2073.50

(100% online, 100% asynchronous)

MYTHOLOGICAL ARCHETYPES IN LITERATURE



Instructor: Dr. Stephen Souris, Professor of English, Texas Woman's University. SSouris@twu.edu

Catalog course title and catalog course description: "ENG 2073. Mythology. A survey of world mythologies and their global influences on the fine arts and literature. Three lecture hours. Credit: Three hours."

Semester-specific focus: Mythological archetypes in literary texts.

Semester-specific description: This course is 100% online and 100% asynchronous. We will steep ourselves in a global survey of world mythologies using DK's visually stimulating *The Mythology Book*. Supplementing that overview, we'll read short works of literature where mythological archetypes (themes) can be discerned. David Burrows' anthology, *Myths and Motifs in Literature*, will provide the literary selections. We'll conclude by watching "[The Matrix](#)" and "[Wonder Woman](#)" (available on YouTube [\$4 each to rent] and elsewhere). This offering of the course is designed to fit comfortably within this summer semester.

First day of class: Tuesday, June 1.

Date of final exam: Friday, August 6.

Target audience: Anyone with an interest in myths, especially mythological archetypes in brief literary texts.

Target registration deadline: May 1st.

Protocol for online courses with this professor: Each assigned text will have a written commentary provided by the instructor. Commentaries will be in the middle of the respective units to promote student engagement and original thinking prior to the availability of the commentaries. Discussion topics for each text will be available to stimulate discussion forum activity. Responses to selected forum postings will be provided by the course GA on a daily basis.

Graduate Assistant: The Graduate Assistant will be available for assistance on any aspect of the course.

Time & place: Entirely online; entirely asynchronous (no mandatory meetings on campus or online at a designated time). There will be several *optional* class-wide video calls using Zoom for students seeking clarification about course procedures and requirements. Zoom video calls have a telephone option for audio only.

Requirements: Familiarity with Canvas; familiarity with what is required to manage and succeed in a 100% online course; discipline to handle an entirely online course; ability to work with information provided entirely in writing; regular reading; regular participation in the discussion forums (at least 2500 words total for the semester); research exercise (article review—see below); five tests in Canvas (four midterm tests and one comprehensive, cumulative final exam); avoidance of academic dishonesty, including plagiarism; and access to a telephone. Required research exercise (article review): In 2000-level courses, at least one posting to the relevant discussion forum must consist of a summary of and commentary on a relevant scholarly article related to the assigned readings.

Optional work on the "Enhanced Educational Experience Plan": 1) a conventional full-length research-based term paper; 2) compare-contrast essay exercises at semester end; 3) a creative project related to the course and drawing upon special talents; 4) an extensive, annotated bibliography of secondary sources related to our readings; 5) especially extensive participation in the discussion forums following specified guidelines; 6) a collaborative project. Canvas tests can be reduced to as little as 25% of the course grade by selecting three components of the EEE Plan, which is strongly recommended. Honors Contracts, which can incorporate the EEE Plan, are welcome. The EEE Plan is entirely optional.

Required Books: (on order through TWU Bookstore; will also be available on reserve at the TWU library):

(It is recommended that you use the exact ISBN number if you're ordering on your own.)

- DK (publisher), *The Mythology Book: Big Ideas Simply Explained*. ISBN-13: 978-1465473370 Cheap used copies (starting at \$11) and an inexpensive Kindle version (\$10) are available via [amazon](#) .
- David Burrows, *Myths and Motifs in Literature*. ISBN-13: 978-0029050309 Cheap used copies (starting at \$3) are available via [amazon](#) .

Academic dishonesty, including plagiarism: Proper documentation of sources is expected. A single act of plagiarism anywhere in the course, whether on required or optional work, can result in an F on the assignment, an F in the course, and expulsion from TWU. This instructor has a zero-tolerance policy regarding plagiarism. Same for academic dishonesty in any other form.

TWU Core Curriculum status of this course: “Satisfies Language, Philosophy, & Culture Core (40). Satisfies Global Perspectives graduation requirement.”

Additional information:

- Non-degree seeking course participants: If you are not in a degree program at TWU you may still be able to take a course at TWU as a “non-degree [seeking] student.” It may even be possible to get such coursework accepted as part of a degree plan should you subsequently become enrolled in a degree program at TWU. For details, call the Office of Admissions at 940-898-3076 or follow [this link](#) and select the “non-degree admission” category. Registration can occur after the date TWU freshmen can register using the “transient student” application form via ApplyTexas.
- Brief, advance notice course descriptions for all my courses are usually available via the “Class Schedules” platform, which is accessible to the general public following this path: [twu.edu](#) > A-Z index > Class Schedules. Alternatively, they are also available through Web Advisor / Student Planning when searching for specific courses. I try to have advance notice course descriptions available starting with March 1 for summer and fall courses and Oct. 1 for spring courses. (Tip: If you encounter a “cookie” problem, access the Class Schedules platform via the “incognito” option with Google Chrome.)
- Miscellaneous Notes: This information is preliminary and is subject to change with notification. This is not an official course syllabus; the official course syllabus, distributed at the beginning of the semester, will provide the most detailed and current information. Nor is this announcement intended to meet the requirements of House Bill 2504; a 2504 version of the course syllabus will be made available separately. A detailed course syllabus including a calendar of reading assignments from a previous semester is available upon request. The course syllabus and readings for this semester will be very similar. For further information: SSouris@twu.edu. Subject line: “Inquiry about Eng.2073.” 3-31-2021