



ENG 253H-01

Honors Mythology in Literature



This course helps to fulfill General Education requirements (GE HUM & GE DIV)

Meet the great heroes of myth & legend! Before Frodo Baggins and Harry Potter, other heroes set out on quests and adventures of their own: Gilgamesh, Odysseus, Rama & Sita, Buddha, Cupid & Psyche, Medea, Beowulf, Dante, Faust and more!

Course Prerequisite: English 122 or 125

Honors Criteria for Eligibility: Newly admitted students who have a combined SAT score (math and critical reading) of 1200 OR a cumulative 3.5 GPA out of a 4.0 grading scale (high school) and who require no developmental coursework are eligible to take Honors courses. Current MCC and transfer students who have a cumulative 3.5 GPA after the completion of 12 college credits and who have completed any necessary developmental coursework for their major are also eligible.

How to Register: Because this course is an honors course, you will need to contact one of the program's Co-Directors for an approval form. Please contact Prof. Donna-Marie Gardner (dgardner@middlesexcc.edu) or Prof. Mathew Spano (mspano@middlesexcc.edu).

Benefits: As a student in an honors class, you will enjoy a small class size (10 students minimum and 15 students maximum) and privileged domain. You will have access to advanced resources and research technology. Taught in a seminar format, this course will also allow you to explore individual areas of interest. And you can choose the best vehicle for that exploration by shaping projects and assignments that allow you to use your own native intelligence type based on Gardner's Multiple Intelligences Theory. The course will also lend itself to interdisciplinary study, and it will involve a higher level of critical discussion and written work. You will enjoy intellectually stimulating readings and learn about various critical perspectives. Finally, the course will involve field trips to an opera and a Hindu temple. Say goodbye to the world as you knew it; say hello to the new worlds that await you in *Honors ENG 253: Mythology in Literature!*

Description: Students explore literary myths from diverse cultures and traditions from around the world, such as Greco-Roman, Judeo-Christian, Mesopotamian, Egyptian, African, Hindu, Buddhist, Taoist, Nordic, Mesoamerican and Native-American. Myths are read and discussed through some of their great epics, plays, poems, folktales and histories. Students analyze these myths from a variety of critical perspectives, including the literary, cultural, psychological, historical, religious, sociological, and anthropological. As part of their study, students examine the way myth can formulate dilemmas within and between cultures. Attention is also given to the relevance of myths through stimulating, intellectually challenging readings; advanced individual research; critical discussion, and synthesis of concepts from multiple disciplines, demonstrating advanced writing, reasoning, problem-solving and critical thinking skills.