

MUSC 312 - HUMN 312

**MUSIC
&
MYTHOLOGY**



SIERRA NEVADA COLLEGE

Spring 2015

Donna Axton - Instructor

MUSIC AND MYTHOLOGY

Sierra Nevada College – Spring 2015

MUSC 312 - CRN #10145

HUMN 312 - CRN #10146

Course Code & No.	HUMN 312/MUSC312
Course Title	Music and Mythology (3 credits)
Term & Year	Spring 2015
Course Ref. No. (CRN)	10145, 10146
Instructor:	Donna Axton
Phone	775-881-7586
Email	daxton@sierranevada.edu
Office	David Hall 103A
Office Hours:	Monday - Wednesday 1-2 pm and by appointment
Class Meeting Times:	Tuesday, Thursday 2:30-3:45 pm
Meeting Place:	David Hall 103
Pre-requisites	ENGL 101 or the consent of the instructor
Co-requisites	none

Required Textbooks:

The Power of Myth by Joseph Campbell

He by Robert A. Johnson

She by Robert A. Johnson

We by Robert A. Johnson

Optional textbooks: Available on reserve at Prim Library

Goddesses in Every Woman by Jean Shinoda Bolen

Gods in Every Man by Jean Shinoda Bolen

Greek Mythology by Sophia Kokkinou

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is a three unit course designed as an inter-disciplinary Music and Humanities Course. The connection between the two fields of Music and Mythology will be explored from two different directions:

- I. The mythology of music: Ways in which the myth and folk lore of specific societies have explained the presence, the creation and the power of music; what this tells us about the human experience and about music.
- II. The music of mythology: Examples in the musical literature of myth as the thematic material for instrumental and vocal works. The student will study the myth itself and the musical vocabulary the composer and performer use to convey the meaning of the myth. Class work includes listening, lecture, discussion and a final project combining music and myth in an original way.

STUDENT OUTCOMES

By considering mythology, music, and their interwoven connections, the students will achieve the following outcomes:

- * Investigate music and myth as two powerful languages.
- * Become aware of differing roles music has played in society - as shown by stories told about music's creation.
- * Achieve familiarity with the main Greek gods and goddesses
- * Relate the qualities of these archetypes to human life experience
- * Read mythological literature and be able to apply its lessons to present day life.
- * Extend this frame of reference to other mythologies - including Native American, Norse, Germanic, English, and Russian folklore and fairy tales.
- * Listen to and discuss musical masterpieces that use mythological themes and stories.
- * Be able to identify the musical techniques and qualities used to represent aspects of the mythological story in music form.
- * Use music in a creative way to enhance or tell the story of a chosen myth.

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

Reading assignments from Greek, French, Native American and Norse
Mythology
Student presentations on other mythological systems
Listening and discussion of music based on other mythological themes, folk tales, fairy tales.
Reports and presentations on myth-based musical pieces.
Class discussions of readings
In-class musical projects
Creative projects combining music and myth.

CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

The daily reading and writing assignments will be from that material.
In-class work will include listening and discussion of music based on other mythological themes, folk tales, and fairy tales.

METHODS OF ASSESSING STUDENT OUTCOMES

Homework assignments, presentations, quizzes, mid-term and final exams.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Reading assignments will be given for each class session. Questions will be assigned for writing and discussion on these readings. There will be in-class listening assignments, response papers, and occasional written quizzes. You will have mid-term and a final exams.

GRADING POLICY

Your final grade will be determined using the following percentages.

Attendance	20%
Participation	20%
Written assignments	30%
Exams and quizzes	30%

Written assignments that are complete will be given full credit on the day they are due. During the next week they will be given 80% credit, during the following week 60 % credit. After that they will not be accepted.

Attendance:

A great deal of this class is experiential. Writing assignments will be based on responses to classroom discussion and music listening. In other words, consistent attendance is crucial to your success in this class.

Also, please notice that 40% of your class grade can only be accomplished by attending classes.

Participation:

The universal themes of mythology create a personal response in each of us which is unique and valuable. Music is also an extremely subjective communication medium and can evoke strong responses and create insights on a deep level. Be responsible for your own safety and/or comfort level in this class and respect your classmates' contributions. Beyond these cautionary statements, enjoy exploring these two wonderful sources of riches.

Written assignments

Written work will be assigned with required readings. It will be graded on clarity, originality, thoughtfulness, and grammatical correctness. I am looking for reflective and meaningful work.

Exams and quizzes:

Your mid-term and your final will have an in-class component. The other part will be an original work that incorporates music with a myth of your choice. Be thinking about mythological stories that strike a strong chord with you. Choose myths you enjoy. .

Prim Library Resources

Using the library's resources effectively (not just Internet resources) contributes to developing each of SNC's core themes by exposing students to high quality academic resources, diverse opinions, new ideas, and a future that includes building on a liberal arts education. In this course, you will be expected to utilize the library's resources (either on-site or remotely) as you complete your assignments.

Prim Library Resources for Psychology include, but are not limited to:

1. Lib Guides: <http://libguides.sierranevada.edu/psychology>. These web pages have been compiled to highlight specific resources in psychology. Tabs indicate Prim library information regarding books, articles, websites, citations, and general interest psychology information.
2. Introduction to Prim Library website – <http://libguides.sierranevada.edu/library>
3. Books (to be checked out):
 - a. In general, books related to Mythology have Library of Congress Classification numbers can be found in the BL sections. Search the Prim Library Catalog using key words related to the topic that you are researching. .
4. Electronic databases that may be helpful include EBSCO: Academic Search Premier. To access electronic databases off campus, use your first initial and your last name as the username and your 9 digit student ID number as the password.
5. Hardcopy periodicals: Prim Library has current subscriptions for a few academic journals; however, many full-text articles are available through the electronic databases.

Music resources that will be helpful to you are New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians (in the reference section), and New Grove Dictionary of Musical Instruments . .

Music books are in the section marked ML (Music Literature) M (actual written music) and MT (Theory)

LOGIN information for SNC Prim Library Electronic Databases <http://libguides.sierranevada.edu/library>

Betts Markle, Library Director
emarkle@sierranevada.edu
775-881-7511

When you need to access SNC's licensed database content from off campus, you will need the following information:

- Students: Use your first initial and your last name as the username and your 9 digit student ID number as the password.

Sanctions for Cheating and/or Plagiarism

The Honor Code

The faculty of SNC believes students must be held to high standards of integrity in all aspects of college life in order to promote the educational mission of the College and to encourage respect for the rights of others. Each student brings to the SNC community unique skills, talents, values and experiences which, when expressed within the community, contribute to the quality of the educational environment and the growth and development of the individual. Students share with members of the faculty, administration and staff the responsibility for creating and maintaining an environment conducive to learning and personal development, where actions are guided by mutual respect, integrity, responsibility and trust. The faculty and students alike must make diligent efforts to ensure high standards are upheld by their colleagues and peers as well as themselves. Therefore faculty and students accept responsibility for maintaining these standards at Sierra Nevada College and are obligated to comply with its regulations and procedures, which they are expected to read and understand.

Consequences of Violating the Student Honor Code

SNC students and faculty share the responsibility for maintaining an environment of academic honesty. Thus, all are responsible for knowing and abiding by the SNC Faculty/Student Honor Code published in the current SNC Catalog. Faculty are responsible for presenting the Honor Code and the consequences of violating it to students at the start of their classes AND for reporting all incidences of academic dishonesty to the Provost. Students are responsible for knowing what constitutes CHEATING, PLAGIARISM and FABRICATION and for refraining from these and other forms of academic dishonesty. Violations of the Honor Code become part of a student's academic record.

- 1st Offense: Student receives a zero for assignment/exam and counseling with faculty on the honor code, consequences for violating the honor code, and the value of academic honesty in learning.
- 2nd Offense: Student fails course and receives counseling with faculty on the honor code, consequences for violating the honor code, and the value of academic honesty in learning.
- 3rd Offense: Student is expelled.

ADA Accommodations

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, students with a documented disability are eligible for support services and accommodations. If a student wishes to request an accommodation, please contact the Director of Academic Support Services, Henry Conover, at (775) 831-1314 x7534, hconover@sierranevada.edu or go to the OASIS offices on the third floor of Prim Library within the first week of the semester.

I personally want to encourage you to come and talk to me about any needs you may have. I want to support you fully in shining in this class.

The SNC Email System

The SNC email system is the official communication vehicle among students, faculty members and administrative staff and is designed to protect the confidentiality of student information as required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 Act (FERPA). Students should check their college email accounts daily during the school year.

Students have a right to forward their SNC e-mail to another e-mail account (for example, @hotmail or @gmail). However, confidentiality of student information protected by FERPA cannot be guaranteed for SNC e-mail forwarded to an outside vendor. Having email redirected does not absolve a student from the responsibilities associated with official communication sent to his or her SNC email account.

The Mission Statement:

Sierra Nevada College graduates will be educated to be scholars of and contributors to a sustainable world. Sierra Nevada College combines the liberal arts and professional preparedness through an interdisciplinary curriculum that emphasizes entrepreneurial thinking and environmental, social, economic and educational sustainability.

The Core Themes:

Liberal Arts

Entrepreneurial Thinking

Professional Preparedness

Sustainability

COURSE OUTLINE AND ASSIGNMENTS

Week 1 – Introduction

Tuesday, January 20 – Music, Mythology

Thursday, January 22

Reading due: the Power of Myth pps. 1-85

Week 2 -Myth

Tuesday, January 27

Reading due: the Power of Myth pps.86-112

Thursday, January 29 - Archetypes and Patriarchy Cronus, Uranus, Titans

Reading due: "There are Gods in every man"

Reading due" "Fathers and Sons: Myths tell us about the Patricarchy

Week 3 - Greek God Archetypes

Tuesday, February 3 - Zeus, Poseidon, - Hades, and family of origin

Listening: Debussy - La Mer

Thursday, February 5 Apollo, Hermes, Hephaestus,

Reading due" "The Lord of the Silver Bow"

Video: Fantasia

Week 4 - Greek God/Goddess Archetypes

Tuesday, February 10 Ares, Dionysus

Video: Fantasia

Thursday, February Feb. 12- Amor (Cupid): Aphrodite,

Reading due: The Power of Myth pps. 207-230 – *The Gift of the Goddess*

Reading due: "Alchemical Goddess"

Listening: The Planets - by Gustav Holst, "Venus" and "Cupid"

Week 5- Greek Goddess Archetypes

Tuesday, February 17 - Vulnerable Goddesses: Hera, Demeter, Persephone

Reading due: "The story of Io"

Listening "Ariadne auf Naxos"

Thursday, February 19 - Virgin Goddesses: Artemis, Athena, Hestia

Reading due: "The Horse and the Olive", "The Wonderful Weaver"

Week 6 – She - Psyche

Tuesday, February 24 - Quiz

Thursday, February 26

Reading due: She - pps. ix-34;
Listening - The Sleep of Psyche - Cesar Franck

Week 7 – She

Tuesday, March 3- The Tasks

Reading due: She - pps. 35-52

Thursday March 5 – The Tasks

Reading due: She - pps. 53-72

Week 8

Tuesday March 10 - Mid-term review

Thursday, March 12 - In class Mid-term

March 16-20 Spring Break

Week 9 - The Odyssey

Tuesday, March 24 – The Odyssey

Thursday, March 26

Video : O Brother, where art Thou?

Week 10 - He

Tuesday, March 31- The Fisher King

Reading due: The Power of Myth pps 151-206 - *The Hero's Adventure*

Reading due: He pps. ix-12

Thursday, April 2 - Parsifal

Reading due: "He" pps. 13-30; Listening: Parsifal

Week 11 - He

Tuesday, April 7

Reading due: He pps. 31-58

Thursday, April 9- The Grail Castle

Reading due: He 58-82

Week 12 - He

Tuesday, April 14

Video: The Fisher King

Thursday, April 16 - "Orpheus"

Reading due: The Trojan War

Listening: Orpheus and Eurydice; Video: Black Orpheus

Hercules

Dido and Aeneas

Week 13 - We

Tuesday, April 21

Reading due: The Power of Myth pps.231-257 -*Tales of Love and Marriage*

Reading due: We pps. 1 – 34

Thursday , April 23

Reading due: We pps. 37-80

Listening: Tristan and Isolde - Wagner

Week 14 - We

Tuesday, April 28

Reading due: We pps. 83-115

Thursday, April 30

Reading due: We pps. 119-166, 189 - 201

Week 15 - Review

Tuesday, May 5-Review

May 6 & 7 – Study days

Final exam: TBA