

# Studies in Mythology Spring 2015

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## Station Camp High School Mission Statement

*Station Camp High School, in partnership with its community and parents, will develop students who have a learner's heart, are honorable in speech and conduct, and are effective citizens with compassion for our world.*

## English Department Mission Statement

*The English Department, while encouraging respectful attitudes and independent thinking, desires to help students develop the reading and writing skills they need to enhance their life and to be successful in an international society. We hope to provide students with a broad knowledge of the history and development of literature and to foster a love for reading through a serious study of the English language.*

## OBJECTIVES

Before they leave this class, I expect my students to...

- **Master** the essential elements of the mythological genres.
- **Build** an impressive vocabulary and be able to use the words in written work.
- **Practice** several distinctive types of writing, including descriptive, informative, and persuasive essays and be able to accurately cite their research sources.
- **Exercise** reflective and critical writing skills.
- **Improve and expand** their fundamental grammar skills through practice in literature and composition.
- **Pursue and create** unique methods of presenting information through auditory, visual, and kinesthetic means.
- **Communicate** effectively through small public speaking roles.
- *Above all else, become a better person.*

## OUR ENVIRONMENT

- I cannot emphasize enough the importance I place on the instructional period of time students spend in my class. Students will be **in class** and will be **working**.
- I do not anticipate, nor do I tolerate distractions, disruptions, or disrespectful behavior directed at me or to another student. This includes—but is not limited to—any form of bullying, harassment, or discrimination.
- This is a classroom of **respect, choice, and opportunity**. All students will be given equal portions of the three.
- Just as students should be in class on time, I expect their assignments on time. I **do not** accept late work of any kind.
- Make-up tests/quizzes will be taken in detention or by appointment scheduled within 3 days of return from any absence.
- My grading is based on a total points system. Tests and essays are 100 points, projects are 50-150 points (depending on length), quizzes are 20-50 points, reading quizzes/homework are 10-30 points (depending on length). Additional assignments will be given and each will be worth 10-50 points. I offer one extra credit assignment every nine weeks. While participation in class is absolutely required, students can also earn extra credit by providing extraneous insight or information of which the class was not already aware.
- This class is structured in a way that students **always** have homework, be it studying for a quiz, researching a specific topic, reading an assigned story, working on an extended project, etc.
- Unless otherwise stated, the use of phones, mp3 players, electronic reading devices, etc. are not allowed in class. Furthermore, each student is expected to wear **their ID** to class every day.

## LITERATURE

- We will read myths from several different sources this semester, specifically myths from ancient Greece and Rome, ancient Egypt, Iceland, Norway, and Celtic, Anglo-Saxon, and medieval Britain. Edith Hamilton's Mythology will be used extensively, as will extant versions of it. We will also study translations of the stories found in Richard Barber's Myths and Legends of the British Isles in addition to several other African and European myths and legends. **It is not necessary for students to have copies of these in class or at home.** I am simply making you aware of the texts we will be using since they are not conventional textbooks found in every school.

## ART

- We will be viewing art from the Greek, Renaissance, Classical, Romantic, and several other artistic periods. Our focus will obviously be on myths and legends. Artists will include Botticelli, Michelangelo, Da Vinci, Raphael, and others. Some of the classical paintings, drawings, and sculptures—such as Michelangelo's *Zeus* and Botticelli's *The Birth of Venus*—include brief nudity. If you have any questions regarding these works, feel free to contact me at the number or e-mail above.

## SUPPLIES (All are needed and appreciated)

\*Expo Markers

\*Kleenex

\*Paper Towels

\*Candy (for games)

\*Expo Erasers

Magic markers (for projects)

Colored Pencils (for projects)

Packages of printer paper

Epson 69 Black or Colored Printer Ink (for printing essays or projects in class so you don't have to at home)

Cleaning Wipes

Swiffer hand dusters

Swiffer wet & dry mop cloths

## COMMUNICATION

I urge you to check the class website at [mistercoachg.weebly.com](http://mistercoachg.weebly.com) for daily and weekly updates. In fact, this document and the class schedule can be found there for your reference at any time. Also, I update my Twitter @MeLikeEnglish regularly with class news, quiz/test/homework reminders, etc. If at any time you have concerns, curiosities or complaints about the class, please feel free to contact me at school and leave a message or e-mail me at the address above. I will return your call within 24 hours at the absolute latest.

*I have read this class introduction and understand the policies, rules, and objectives of the class. I am aware that this syllabus was required to be signed by a parent/guardian and the student and will be taken as a grade.*

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_