

**Carleton University**  
**Fall 2013 – Winter 2014**  
**Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences**  
**Department of English Language and Literature**  
**ENGL 2008 A: MYTH and SYMBOL**

(Pre-req.: a 100 level credit English course or second year standing or permission of the Professor)

**Instructor:** R. Hoey, PhD.  
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**Office:** 1914 Dunton Tower, (613) 520-2600 (x2307)  
**Class time:** Wednesdays from 6:05 – 8:55 pm  
**Class Location:** 516 SA (Please confirm on Carleton Central)  
**Office Hours:** TBC and by appointment.

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**General Description:**

ENGL 2008 is an introductory course which examines a diverse range of literary materials from the oral tradition through to classical and on to very contemporary works in many genres. Students are encouraged to consider an inter-disciplinary approach to the materials and strive to know and appreciate the respective historical, cultural, and psychological contexts.

The focus remains on the texts rather than on specific theories although common mythic theorists, literary concepts, genres, literary structures, and writing techniques serve as analytical and comparative references.

The course explores an eclectic set of myths and symbols including classical allusions, creation and destruction myths, hero/heroine myths, 'modern' myths and symbols such as tricksters, archetypes, Faustian myths, folk tales, fairy tales, and ritual prototypes.

Students who chose this course **MUST BE PREPARED TO ATTEND CLASS AND TO READ THE CORE AND PRIMARY TEXTS**. It is assumed that the students are also seriously interested in examining psychological and symbolic aspects of literary texts as well as pursuing universal mythological elements in literature.

The **FOUR** core objectives for ENGL 2008 are the following:

- ~ to know the universal constructs of what constitutes a myth and a symbol as distinct literary, cultural, and historical entities;
- ~ to develop a knowledge base of numerous western and eastern myths, their common symbols, and constructs;
- ~ to appreciate the evolutionary nature of myths and symbols; and
- ~ to enhance one's own awareness and appreciation of the inter-relatedness of myth, symbols, and mythologies in global contexts.

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**EVALUATION**
**TERM ONE:**

<b>TASK</b>	<b>VALUE</b>	<b>DUE DATES (TBC)</b>
1. Essay #1* (10-12 PAGES)	20%	By November 20, 2013.
2. Mid-Term Exam.	25%	TBC (Dec. 11-22, 2013)

**TERM TWO:**

3. Essay #2* (12-16 pages)	20%	By March 12, 2014.
4. Final Examination	35%	TBC (APR. 11-26, 2014)

\*Essay topics will be distributed at the beginning of each term and are applicable to the work for that term. Therefore, reading ahead of designated lecture materials is wise. Primary AND secondary resources are expected. MLA formatting is required. Please note class directions. The standard late penalty of 10% per diem will apply. Term One's paper is a primary material focus and Term Two's paper is a comparative project.

**Note:** BOTH TERM PAPERS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO COMPLETE THE COURSE.

**SPECIAL NOTES:****1. Examinations:**

a. The exams will not just be in a traditional essay format. The Mid-term exam will include a multiple choice section, primary text questions and a formal essay response. The Term's texts and lecture materials are the main focus but credit will be allotted for inclusion of appropriate outside readings, class videos, films and professional resources.

b. WHEN YOU ELECT TO TAKE THIS COURSE, YOU CONTRACT YOURSELF TO BE AVAILABLE FOR THE EXAMINATIONS AT THE SCHEDULED TIMES. IF YOU MISS THESE EXAMS, PLEASE FOLLOW THE PROCEDURES FOR ILLNESS, ETC.. Any individual or 'make-up' examinations CANNOT be accommodated. A deferred examination is offered ONLY in the context of a missed FINAL examination and arrangements must be made through the Registrar's Office. Please note the University's sites for dates and protocols.

c. There are NO supplemental and grade-raising examinations in FASS.

d. ALL queries about exams must be made PRIOR to the designated dates in Carleton's posted calendars. PLEASE note these schedules AND DO NOT BOOK YOUR HOLIDAYS, SPRIAL EVENTS, AND ANY MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS UNTIL AFTER THE SCHEDULES ARE PUBLISHED.

2. **ASSIGNMENTS/ESSAYS:** If any of your assignments are lost, misplaced, or not received by the instructor and/or Department, you are responsible for having a back-up copy that can be submitted immediately upon request.

3. **Plagiarism:** Please note the University's guidelines on this critical topic. Please

word process your essays using current MLA formatting. Note class directions.

**4. Religious Observance:**

Students requesting academic accommodation for religious observance should make a formal, written request to their instructors for alternate dates and/or means for satisfying all academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student. Students or instructor(s) who have questions or want to confirm accommodation eligibility of a religious event or practice may refer to the Equity Services Department for a list of holy days and Carleton's Academic Accommodation policies, or they may contact Equity Services Department for assistance.

**5. Pregnancy:** Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Advisor in Equity Services to complete a letter of accommodation. The student must then make an appointment to discuss her needs with the Instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event for which the accommodation is deemed to be required.

**6. Lecture Format:** Few lectures are intended for the full three hours and all classes will break at a mid-point. Attendance will be taken and taken into consideration if and when accommodations are required. Please note in-class directions and opportunities for input. Students are strongly advised against leaving at the break for several professional reasons. CU Learn usage is encouraged but posting materials is not an alternative to attending the classes.

**7. Paul Menton Centre:**

Please note registration deadlines: Nov. 8, 2013 and Mar. 7, 2014.

**8. TEXTBOOKS and resources:** (also see Page 4)

All required texts have been ordered using the ISBN codes through Haven Books (613-730-9888) 43 Seneca Ave. at the corner of Sunnyside ([www.havenbooks@ca](mailto:www.havenbooks@ca)). Students are encouraged to monitor current print, visual, and electronic resources. Acquiring a dictionary of symbols is encouraged and resources will be shared throughout the course. Note reserves in the Library.

**9. Communication with the Professor and TA:**

Students are asked that when they send an email and/or leave a voice message that they indicate the course details so that the professor can recognize the communication as valid. PLEASE ONLY USE YOUR CARLETON address(es) because if we cannot recognize the links, we will not open the item. It is just too risky. Notification of a class absence is a common professional courtesy.

**10. TEXTBOOK List for ENGL 2008:**

The sequence is in order of usage. The core text (CT) is used in both terms and forms the foundation for all resources.

CT: Thury, Eva M., and Margaret K. Devinney, eds. *Introduction to Mythology. Contemporary Approaches to Classical and World Myths*. 3<sup>rd</sup>. New York: Oxford UP, 2013.

(ISBN978-0-19-985923-8)

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**FIRST TERM: (CT plus FOUR titles)**

Atwood, Margaret. *The Penelopiad*. Toronto: Vintage, 2005.

0-676-97425-20

Bedier, J. and E. Gallagher, Trs. *The Romance of Tristan and Iseult*.

Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing, 2013. 978-1-60384-900-5

Martel, Yann, *Life of Pi*. Toronto: Vintage, 2001.

0-676-973777-9

Rowlings, J.K.. *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*. Vancouver:

Raincoast Books, 2007.

978-1-55192-840-1

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**SECOND TERM: (CT plus six titles)**

Bulgakov, Mikhail. *The Master and Margarita*. New York: Vintage, 1967.

0-679-76080-6

Wilde, Oscar. *The Picture of Dorian Gray*. Select an unabridged edition which includes Wilde's *Preface*.

Martel, Yann. *Beatrice and Virgil*. New York: Vintage, 2011.

978-0-307-39878-9

Marsh, Richard. *The Beetle*. Julian Wolfreys. ed. Peterborough;

Broadview, 2004.

1-55111-443-7

Davies, Robertson. *The Manticore*. Toronto: Penguin, 1972.

0-14-026050-1

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Again, consider investing in a reliable dictionary of myths and symbols such as the editions by Penguin and Oxford Press. Writings by Jos. Campbell like his 1949 text, *The Hero with a Thousand Faces* and any publication by Mircea Eliade are solid resources.

| ENGL 2008A SCHEDULE for 2013 – 2014                                     |          |                                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Week                                                                    | Class    | Core Focus/text/notes                                       |
| 1                                                                       | Sept. 11 | Introductions – Course outline, texts, ...                  |
| 2                                                                       | Sept. 18 | <i>Introduction to Mythology</i> (CT) Ch. 1 & 2: Beginnings |
| 3                                                                       | Sept. 25 | CT – 3, 4, 5, and 9...                                      |
| 4                                                                       | Oct. 02  | CT – 11, 12, 15...Destruction and Heroes...                 |
| 5                                                                       | Oct. 09  | CT – 21, 23, 24...25 – Heroes and Tricksters                |
| 6                                                                       | Oct. 16  | <i>The Penelopiad</i> (CT 1, 38)                            |
| 7                                                                       | Oct. 23  | <i>The Romance of Tristan and Iseult</i> (CT- Part 3)       |
| 8                                                                       | Oct. 30  | ... FALL BREAK: OCT. 28 --- NOV. 1, 2013 ...                |
| 9                                                                       | Nov. 6   | “Tristan and Isolde” – synthesis and CT links.              |
| 10                                                                      | Nov. 13  | <i>Life of Pi</i> (CT 2, 15, 33...)                         |
| 11                                                                      | Nov. 20  | <i>Life of Pi</i> ...Essay #1 Due.                          |
| 12                                                                      | Nov. 27  | <i>Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows</i> (CT 15, 42 ...) |
| 13                                                                      | Dec. 4   | <i>Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows</i> Term Synthesis  |
| ----- EXAMINATIONS: DECEMBER 11-22, 2013 -----                          |          |                                                             |
| 14.                                                                     | Jan. 8   | CT. Part 8 and Chapter 46                                   |
| 15.                                                                     | Jan. 15  | <i>The Master and Margarita</i> (CT 46, 33,...)             |
| 16.                                                                     | Jan. 22  | <i>The Master and Margarita</i>                             |
| 17.                                                                     | Jan. 29  | <i>The Picture of Dorian Gray</i> (CT 1,2, 15, 33...)       |
| 18.                                                                     | Feb. 5   | “The Picture of Dorian Gray”:feature video-synthesis        |
| 19.                                                                     | Feb. 12  | Canada – Myths and Symbols (CT 23, 33, 46...)               |
| 20.                                                                     | Feb. 17  | -----Winter Break: Feb. 17 – 21, 2014 -----                 |
| 21.                                                                     | Feb. 26  | <i>Beatrice and Virgil</i> (CT 33, 38, 46, ...)             |
| 22.                                                                     | Mar. 5   | <i>The Beetle</i> (CT 29, 33...)                            |
| 23.                                                                     | Mar. 12  | <i>The Beetle</i> (CT 38, 46...) ...Essay #2 Due.           |
| 24.                                                                     | Mar. 19  | <i>The Manticore</i> (CT 34, 46...)                         |
| 25.                                                                     | Mar. 26  | <i>The Manticore</i> (CT 34, 46...)                         |
| 26.                                                                     | Apr. 02  | Term Synthesis and preparation for the Final Exam           |
| ----- April 2014 Examination Schedule ~ April 11-26 <sup>th</sup> ----- |          |                                                             |