

Course Outline

CLCV 4801: Indo-European Myth and Religion

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Classroom hours

Tuesdays, 11:30-2:30, Mackenzie Building 3190. Since our class meets over the lunch hour, please feel free to bring your lunch to class. Also feel free to bring the professor a lunch.

Course Description

CLCV 4801 is a fourth-year seminar on Indo-European Myth and Religion. The content derives from the mythological stories and religious beliefs or practices attested in the earliest literature of the Indo-European languages and which can be reconstructed for Proto-Indo-European. The class is loosely divided into three parts. It begins with discussion of the concept and discovery of Indo-European, the comparative method and comparative mythology. The middle classes focus on the literature of Vedic India, ancient Iran, Greek and Hittite sources, early Rome, early German sources (including Old Norse poetry and saga), and Old Irish. Finally, there is some time devoted to particular myths or religious practices.

Textbook

The only textbook for this course is a course pack of primary and secondary readings that I have assembled. It is available at the campus bookstore. Some additional materials will be available on CULearn.

Trigger warning

Given the nature of the course topic (ancient mythology), students should be aware that much of the literature assigned for this course contains material that could lead to distress or other adverse reactions. The readings include various acts of violence (e.g., murder, fratricide, patricide, matricide, suicide, deicide--basically, all the 'cides), often of a sexual nature, including (but not limited to) rape, castration, bestiality, incest, other creative forms of assault (e.g., torture, theophagy, phallophagy), and occasionally in combination. In the readings we will encounter extreme phallocentrism, misogyny, patriarchy, sexism, racism, and (possibly) ageism. There are also several instances of violence against animals and imaginary beings (e.g., frost giants, if in fact imaginary). The intention of this course is never to shock or cause distress. A serious, academic study of the topic cannot avoid these phenomena

and students are expected to engage in critical and thoughtful discussion of the issues as they arise in the class.

Assessment

- 25% **Class participation:** since this course is a seminar, your attendance at every class and your active participation in class discussion is expected. You should have read the material for each meeting at least once before the class in which it is discussed. I expect you not only to know the material but also to have some interesting questions or comments to contribute to the discussion.
- 25% **Presentation:** each student will be responsible for presenting to the class a short discussion of her/his term paper as a work-in-progress. You are asked to summarize your paper and the argumentation (so far as it exists) so that the class has an appreciation of your main points, or the questions you hope to answer, and an understanding of why you find the topic interesting. The presentation in class may run from 10 to 15 minutes. I will do one in the weeks before the rest of the class, so that you have an idea of what I am looking for.
- 15% **PechaKucha:** each student will prepare a Pecha Kucha presentation of his/her term paper. If you don't know what a PechaKucha is, look here: <http://www.pechakucha.org/> and here: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/PechaKucha>. More details on specific requirements will be posted on CULearn. These are due with your paper, on December 7. If possible, we will arrange a PechaKucha night in the Hums seminar room for viewing.
- 35% **Term paper:** I will provide a list of several possible paper topics to the class, though students may write on a topic of their own choosing if it is approved by me.

Format: 8-15 pages not including title page and bibliography, double spaced, no additional spaces between paragraphs, 1-inch margins, 12 point Times New Roman Font, footnotes rather than end notes, paginated with name on each page. You may use any bibliographical format as long as you are consistent and use a full citation.

Due date: December 7

Calendar

The schedule for the readings can be found at the beginning of the course pack.

<i>wk.</i>	<i>date</i>	<i>topic</i>
1	Sep 8	(Proto-)Indo-European and some IE religious concepts
2	Sep 15	Comparative Method and Comparative Mythology
3	Sep 22	Vedic India
4	Sep 29	Iran: Zarathustrianism, Zoroastrianism, the Achaemenids
5	Oct 6	Greece, Anatolia and Dragon-slaying myths
6	Oct 13	Rome; <i>Mater Matuta</i>
7	Oct 20	The Ancient Germanic World
-	Oct. 27	Fall Reading Week, no class
8	Nov 3	The Ancient Celtic World; Offspring of the Waters; Twin and Brother
9	Nov 10	The Horse Sacrifice
10	Nov 17	Presentations
11	Nov 24	Presentations
12	Dec 1	Presentations

REGULATIONS COMMON TO ALL HUMANITIES COURSES

COPIES OF WRITTEN WORK SUBMITTED

Always retain for yourself a copy of all essays, term papers, written assignments or take-home tests submitted in your courses.

PLAGIARISM

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “*presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.*” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in “*substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.*”

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of “F” for the course

GRADING SYSTEM

Letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100 (12)	B = 73-76 (8)	C - = 60-62 (4)
A = 85-89 (11)	B- = 70-72 (7)	D+ = 57-59 (3)
A- = 80-84 (10)	C+ = 67-69 (6)	D = 53-56 (2)
B+ = 77-79 (9)	C = 63-66 (5)	D - = 50-52 (1)

F	Failure. Assigned 0.0 grade points
ABS	Absent from final examination, equivalent to F
DEF	Official deferral (see “Petitions to Defer”)
FND	Failure with no deferred exam allowed -- assigned only when the student has failed the course on the basis of inadequate term work as specified in the course outline.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean.

WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY

The last date to withdraw from **FALL TERM** courses is **DEC. 7, 2015**. The last day to withdraw from **FALL/WINTER (Full Term)** and **WINTER** term courses is **APRIL 8, 2016**.

REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term because of disability, pregnancy or religious obligations. Please review the course outline promptly and write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at: carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/

Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Documented disabilities could include but not limited to mobility/physical impairments, specific Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/psychological disabilities, sensory disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and chronic medical conditions. Registered PMC students are required to contact the PMC, 613-520-6608, every term to ensure that your Instructor receives your Letter of Accommodation, no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations. If you only require accommodations for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodations to PMC by **Nov. 6, 2015** for the Fall term and **March 6, 2016** for the Winter term. For more details visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/

PETITIONS TO DEFER

If you miss a final examination and/or fail to submit a **FINAL** assignment by the due date because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply a deferral of examination/assignment. If you are applying for a deferral due to illness you will be required to see a physician in order to confirm illness and obtain a medical certificate dated no later than one working day after the examination or assignment deadline. This supporting documentation must specify the date of onset of the illness, the degree of incapacitation, and the expected date of recovery.

If you are applying for a deferral for reasons other than personal illness, please [contact](#) the Registrar’s Office directly for information on other forms of documentation that we accept.

Deferrals of a final assignment or take home, in courses without a final examination, must be supported by confirmation of the assignment due date, for example a copy of the course outline specifying the due date and any documented extensions from the course instructor.

Deferral applications for examination or assignments must be submitted within **5 working days** of the original final exam.

ADDRESSES: (Area Code 613)

College of the Humanities 520-2809	300 Paterson
Greek and Roman Studies Office 520-2809	300 Paterson
Religion Office 520-2100	2A39 Paterson
Registrar's Office 520-3500	300 Tory
Student Academic Success Centre 520-7850	302 Tory
Paul Menton Centre 520-6608/TTY 520-3937	501 Uni-Centre
Writing Tutorial Service 520-2600 Ext. 1125	4 th Floor Library
Learning Support Service 520-2600 Ext 1125	4 th Floor Library