

FOLKLORE & MYTHOLOGY MINOR

CORE COURSES IN SPRING 2008

—the list of minor requirements may be found on the reverse side of this sheet—



CLA 100: ANCIENT STORIES IN MODERN FILMS

Instructor: Robert Rabel (rrabel@uky.edu) MWF 10:00-10:50

This course will view a number of modern films and set them alongside ancient literary texts which have either directly inspired them or with which they share common themes. In the first part of the course, we will consider the relationship between ancient Greek epic, tragic, and comic literature and the modern cinema, such as the recent film Troy. In the second part, we will look at the number of ways in which the city of Rome has been treated as both a physical place and as an idea or ideal in the work of both ancient Romans and modern film-makers. **This course counts towards USP and college humanities requirements.**

FR 263: FRENCH LITERATURE & CULTURE OF NORTH AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST IN TRANSLATION

Instructor: John Erickson MWF 12:00-12:50, POT 110

In this course we will explore social, political and religious issues arising in selected critical writings, narratives and films from North Africa and the Middle East. These texts will consist primarily of translations of narratives originally written in French as well as some representative texts translated from the Arabic. Subjects and issues examined will include the varied social levels of Arabic culture, the faith system of Islam, the intervention of foreign countries in North Africa and the Middle East, the situation of women in Islamic societies, the importance of storytelling, and the Algerian War of Independence. The writers, filmmakers and critics studied in this course hold immense importance in teaching us about the Islamic world at a time when terrorism parading under the distorted banner of religious belief has unleashed violence on the world. They challenge us to think about cultures other than our own, to see the other side and to understand much better the diversity of peoples and forces within Islam, a rich culture and faith system embracing over a billion people scattered throughout the world. **FR 263 is open to all students and counts for the USP Cross-cultural requirement. No knowledge of French required.**



GER 103: FAIRY TALES IN A EUROPEAN CONTEXT

Instructor: Linda Worley MW 9:00-9:50 + 1 Discussion Group R 9-9:50 or 10-10:50; F 9-9:50 or 10-10:50

This course guides students through the forests and cottages of the fairy tale world in Europe, showing how to read folk and fairy tales in new ways and to see our own culture in a critical historical perspective. Readings and class discussion highlight key issues and anxieties of European culture from 1400 to 1900 as well as reveal how people used magic to counteract and explain the normal in Europe. **Fulfills half of USP III.C. Humanities Requirement. Open to all students; no knowledge of German is required.**



GER 363: GERMANIC MYTHOLOGY

Instructor: Michael Jones TR 12:30-1:45

Before the fat lady sings and Valhalla comes crashing down, the Germanic forests are crawling with giants, dwarves, dragons, warriors and maidens. Explore the North's alternative mythology of animism, paganism and grudging conversion to the new religion invading from Rome. Part of new folklore minor!

Also consult the Schedule of Classes and departmental course listing for Folklore & Mythology Minor electives that will be taught in Spring 2008