

English 1012 (50386) Spring 2014 Syllabus
Myths and Folktales

Instructor: J. Caroccio

Office Hours: Room 2311B, Tuesdays 11
am to 12 pm

Email:

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Days: Tuesdays & Thursdays

Time: 9:30 - 10:45 am

Room:

Website:

<http://comp2spring2014.blogspot.com/>

Course Objective:

Brooklyn College's composition program wants to instill in every student the capacity to think critically, develop the necessary skills to do research and produce academic writing. We will accomplish this by reading essays, fiction, memoirs, written speeches, interviews and other types of texts. The readings assigned are meant to give you examples of thoughtful, coherent, and persuasive work. They are also meant to evoke strong reactions, feelings, or thoughts in the reader. These works are written from varying perspectives and on topics related to myth, folklore, and the way humans record the world. This will require you to think critically and use personal experience, knowledge and observations when tackling these works. All of which will culminate in a 7 - 10 page MLA formatted research paper.

Class Expectations:

- Attendance – I will expect that you come to class on time, prepared with any assignments due that day and the reading in hand and read. You are allowed up to three unexcused absences, after that your grade will suffer. If for some reason there is an emergency that restricts you from coming to class for more than three times please contact me right away. More than 5 unexcused absences will result in a failure for this class, as per Brooklyn College policy.

- Assignments – You will be assigned 2 formal essays, informal weekly writing assignments in the form of a blog, and a research project, which will consist of several parts, completed throughout the second half of the semester. **Late Work** will be accepted at the instructor's discretion and if accepted will be lowered one letter interval (for ex: a B will become a B-). You are allowed to hand in one assignment pass the due date without penalty only if you inform me 48 hours prior to the due date.
 - Blog** – This course will have an outside of the classroom component that will provide an online space for writing resources, class assignments, and everyone's individual blog. Your blog will be where you post responses to the

texts that we will tackle in class. Responses should be a question, comment, or critique you have with the text and should not be a mere summary. They are for your benefit because they can be used as a safe way to experiment with style or technique and practice your writing. Weekly blog posts of about 300 words should be posted to your class blog before that Tuesday's class session. You are then required to read and comment on at least two of your fellow classmates' posts before class that Thursday. You are allowed to miss two blog posts (with corresponding comments) without this negatively affecting your grade, so manage your work and time wisely. These informal writings will not be graded but will be checked.

Formal Essays – During the first half of the semester you will be given two essay prompts (forthcoming) that will draw from the readings and require you to have a thesis (argument) and use textual and contextual evidence to support your claim. These essays will have proper MLA citation and works cited list. They are to be 4-5 pages, 12 point font, an appropriate font type (i.e. Arial or Times New Roman), double spaced, one inch margins throughout and include your last name and page number on every page.

Research Project – The second half of the semester will focus on composing your research project and all its components. This will include an **annotated MLA bibliography** of ten sources, 5 articles from scholarly journals and 5 from other sources (books, ted talks, interviews, essays). Each source should be properly formatted and include a description (about one paragraph) about why this applies to your paper and how you plan to implement this source. A **prospectus** will be due shortly after so keep this in mind when developing your bibliography. This is a description of your paper (3-4 pages), which will include a working thesis, sources that you plan to use and will explain to the reader how you will go about proving your thesis and what your plan of action will be. A **first draft** of your paper will be handed in and work shopped in class. This should be a rough draft, but still a full MLA paper (5-6 pages). Your **final draft** (7- 10 pages not including bibliography) with works cited list will be due the last day of class. All parts of the research project should follow the same format for formal writings.

Presentation – A short 5 minute presentation on your final research paper will be given the last two weeks of class. This will be a chance to experience formally presenting your paper in front of an audience, and to also showcase the work put into the project.

- Participation and Conduct – I will expect you to actively participate in class discussions and peer review sessions. When you do participate, you should be courteous and respectful to me and your fellow classmates. That includes no offensive or harassing comments and disabling of electronic devices. This class will be discussing topics that can be sensitive or controversial, and I hope that we can have an exchange of ideas and perspectives. You are free to express yourself and with that freedom you will be required to defend your argument in an intelligent and professional manner.

- Plagiarism – When you present someone else's ideas, writing, or work as your own or if you insufficiently cite your sources you are plagiarizing. In no way is plagiarism acceptable or tolerated. If one of your assignments has been found to be plagiarized you will fail that assignment, and can possibly fail the class and face academic disciplinary action. You can find the full CUNY Academic Integrity Policy here: <http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/bc/policies>. If you are unsure if you might be plagiarizing please check this site or consult me before submitting work.

- Required Texts
 - *A Writer's Reference* By Diana Hacker
- All other required texts will be given to you electronically or in class.
- Non-required texts, but suggested
 - *The Elements of Style* by William Strunk Jr. & E.B. White
 - *Woe is I* by Patricia T. O'Connor

- Grading – Grades for English 1012 range from an A+ to a C- & F. There is no grade of D given. A grade of NC (No Credit) does not affect a student's GPA but is still non passing. It can be given if a student has done the work for the class but isn't yet writing on a level to pass the class.
 - Participation and Attendance – 10%
 - Blog Posts – 10%
 - Essays – 30% (15% each)
 - Presentation – 5%
 - Research Project – 45%
 - ❖ Annotated Bibliography – 5%
 - ❖ Prospectus – 10%
 - ❖ First Draft – 15%
 - ❖ Final Draft – 15%

Resources:

- The Learning Center, 1300 Boylan
- The ESL Lab, 1408 Ingersoll
- SEEK Tutoring, 1428 Ingersoll
- Purdue OWI (Online Writing lab), <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/>

Religious Holidays: If you must miss class because of religious observance that is your right. If this is the case then please contact me beforehand so we can set up an alternative arrangement.

Americans with Disabilities Act: If you have a disability, or suspect that you may have a disability, and need accommodations you must register with the Center for Student Disability Services at 138 Roosevelt Hall (718.951.5538.) You can contact the Director, Valerie Stewart-Lovell, vstewart@brooklyn.cuny.edu. Once registered please speak to me so we can set up accommodations for you.

Tentative Schedule – Dates, readings and texts are subject to change.		
Date	Readings	Assignments Due
Tue 1/28	Syllabus, Introductions	
Thu 1/30	Aesop's Fables	
Tue 2/4	"Aesop, Aristotle, and Animals: The Role of Tables in Human Life" by Edward Clayton	
Thu 2/6	<i>The Three Wishes</i> by Ricardo E. Alegria and "Porto Rican Foldlore" by Peter J. Hamilton	
Tue 2/11	"A Rhetorical and Sociolinguistic Model for the Analysis of Narrative" by Karen Ann Watson	
Thu 2/13	TEDTalk "Stories, Repositories and Folklore" by Aghan Odero Agan	First Paper
Tue 2/18	<i>The Power of Myth</i> by Joseph Campbell	
Thu 2/20	MONDAY SCHEDULE NO CLASS	
Tue 2/25	<i>Living Folklore</i> by Martha Sims	

Thu 2/27	Library Visit	Second Paper
Tue 3/4	"Graphic Journeys: Graphic Novels' Representations of Immigrant Experiences" by Michael D. Boatright	
Thu 3/6	<i>American Born Chinese</i> by Gene Luen Yang	
Tue 3/11	"Graphic Memoirs Come of Age" by William Bradley	
Thu 3/13	<i>Tales From Outer Suburbia</i> by Shaun Tan	
Tue 3/18	<i>Sandman Vol. 1</i> by Neil Gaiman	Bibliography
Thu 3/20	Critical text on <i>Sandman</i>	
Tue 3/25		
Thu 3/27		Prospectus
Tue 4/1		
Thu 4/3		
Tue 4/8		
Thu 4/10		
Tue 4/15	BREAK NO CLASS	
Thu 4/17	BREAK NO CLASS	
Tue 4/22	BREAK NO CLASS	
Thu 4/24		First Draft of Research Paper
Tue 4/29		
Thu 5/1		
Tue 5/6	Presentations	
Thu 5/8	Presentations	
Tue 5/13	Presentations	
Thu 5/15	Presentations	Final Draft of Research Paper