

FOLKLORE & MYTHOLOGY

REVISED **FALL 2015** REVISED

(All courses taught in English unless noted otherwise)

<http://mcl.as.uky.edu/folklore-mythology>

CLA 135-001 GREEK & ROMAN MYTHOLOGY

MWF 9:00-9:50 Valerio Caldesi-Valeri (vcaldesiv@uky.edu)

-- UKCore Inquiry: Humanities --

This course familiarizes the student with important characters, themes, and stories of Classical mythology. Equally important is developing an understanding of the nature and purpose of myth, and the ability to derive message and meaning from myth. The course draws upon wide and varied fields of knowledge including literature, history, linguistics, religion, philosophy, and psychology

New! MCL 190 STORIES OF MIGRATION: COMMUNITY & IDENTITY

MWF 9:00-9:50 Ethan Sharp (ethan.sharp@uky.edu)

How do migrants remember and recount their journeys? How does migration affect children and families? How do migrants experience assimilation and marginalization in the places that they move to? This course will address these and other questions, and provide students a foundation for further studies of migration in and across a range of societies. We will focus on how migrants develop identities and create communities through narratives, foodways, religious practices, and popular culture. The course will include a community engagement project, through which students will document experiences of immigrants in the Lexington area.

MCL 390-001 Topics In MCL: FAIRY TALES FOR SALE: REWORKING EUROPEAN CLASSICS IN THE 21st CENTURY

MWF 1:00-1:50 Jeannine Blackwell (blackwell@uky.edu)

Since 2000, fairy tales have again resurfaced as staples in popular television series (*Grimm*, *Once upon a Time*), film (*Tangled*, *Frozen*, *Into the Woods*, *Snow White and the Huntsman*, and *Maleficent*), and advertising. How much of this recent phenomenon is just a new round of "Disneyfication" of old tales as in the 20th century? How have new media and technology changed modern renditions of classic tales? We will examine the European cultural roots of the transformed tales, analyze their structure and alterations, and speculate on the interaction of marketing, innovative technical media, and contemporary social commentary.

New! MCL 595: MEXICAN & MEXICAN-AMERICAN FOLKLORE

TR 2:00-3:15 Ethan Sharp (ethan.sharp@uky.edu)

Studies of Mexican and Mexican-American folklore have played an important role in the development of folklore studies in the US since the late 1800s. This course will explore the different forms of folklore that these studies have documented, and consider the ways in which these forms are related to folklore found in other populations in and beyond the US. We will learn about Mesoamerican culture and mythology, and their relevance to legends and other cultural expressions that emerged after the Spanish conquest and colonization of Mexico. Students will participate in visits to two sites in the Lexington area, and each student in the course will complete a research project on a topic of his or her choice.

FR 601-001 WICKED WOMEN: TRANSGRESSION & MISOGYNY IN MEDIEVAL FRENCH LITERATURE

M 3:30-6:00 Julie Human (Julie.human@uky.edu)

-- open to undergraduates with permission of the instructor --

In this course we will study the construction of female characters in 13th- and 14th-century medieval romance as transgressive. We will analyze the boundaries they cross and examine ways in which these female characters resist societal norms, even within the texts that construct them. Course will be taught in English. Texts include selections from Arthurian romances featuring the Lady of the Lake, Morgan le Fay, and Guenevere. We will also read about Liénor, who aspires to be empress, and about Silence, who becomes a knight and then a king's wife. Finally, we will meet Mélusine, a fairy who passes as a woman except on Saturday nights, when she turns into a serpent from the waist down. We will use feminist criticism from the twentieth and twenty-first centuries to frame our discussions.

