

Monday, September 16, 2024

ENG 250_WorldMythAssignments__UW Grant

Professor Andrew Gurevich

Week TWO

Journal

1. **Answer** the following question: **All the myths we've read this week provide good examples of our developing definition and essential attributes of myth (found in this module's lecture and coursework). Select one of the myths and examine how it functions according to the specific attributes of myth discussed in the lecture and which of the relevant mythic motifs are also present within it. Support your choice with specific examples from the readings, the lecture materials, and, if necessary, your own research.**
2. **Submit:**
 - Go to Journals on the left sidebar, select **Week 2 Journal — What is Mythology?** and enter your response to the above question.
 - Again, I expect the journal to be **100-125 words minimum.**

Discussion

Discuss the following questions:

- **These four myths all contain a degree of violence, some more than others. Why does the violence occur? What lessons does it hold for the people about the gods and their relationship to them?**
- **The video “The Creation of the Universe and the Arrow of Time” presents the idea of entropy. How does the Hindu myth show the idea of entropy, and is this a clear example of how myth attempts to explain the unexplainable?**

Create & Respond

Create a thread **IN THE MAIN DISCUSSION BOARD** under this week's discussion topic and post your thoughtful, clear answer. You can attach a document, but be sure to also paste the answer so everyone can access. Please try to have your initial post completed **by Friday** of this week. This is an interactive discussion, so respond to each other's comments and ideas. Do not just write an answer down and forget about it. You need to respond to at least two other students' posts. Reply to at least two classmates **by Sunday**.

Week THREE

Journal

- **Answer** the following question:
Choose a metaphor from one of the myths we have read so far and explore how it applies to your life, attitudes, or beliefs.
- **Submit:**
 - Go to Journals on the left sidebar, select **Week 3 Journal — Myth & Metaphor** and enter your response to the above question.

Week FOUR

Journal

1. **Answer** the following question:
Discuss the archetype you find most compelling from one of the myths we have read so far. Why is this so?
2. **Submit:**
 - Go to Journals on the left sidebar, select **Week 4 Journal — Myth & Archetype** and enter your response to the above question.
 - Again, I expect the journal to be **100-125 words minimum**.

Main Discussion Board Post

Research the meaning of a mythological symbol of your choice and share it with the class on the Main Discussion board.

- Your post should be at most 1-2 paragraphs long (5-10 sentences).
- You may use the links to symbols dictionaries provided in the lecture for this week, on the Mythological Resources tab, or find a source from the many good websites available.
- Cite the source you used at the end of your entry. Include an image, if you can.
- You must respond to at least two other students by Sunday at the latest.
- Check Calendar and Schedule for exact due dates.

Week FIVE

The class is also stacked with weekly reading quizzes that cover the newly added materials, short essay assignments as detailed above, and two major exams: one multiple choice, reading comprehension, the other essay format.

Week SIX

Journal

1. **Answer** the following question:
Why do you think these cults, those of Demeter in Eleusis, or Osiris, Isis, and Horus in Egypt in particular, did not allow members to talk about the ceremonies that went on in their initiation rites?
2. **Submit:**
 - Go to Journals on the left sidebar, select **Week 6 — Myth & Ritual** and enter your response to the above question.
 - Again, I expect the journal to be **100-125 words minimum**.

Short Research Project

- Now for **this week's** MAIN DISCUSSION BOARD Project.
 - **Brief Research Project: In the following picture of the Weighing of the Heart, from the Book of the Dead, choose one figure, identify it, and research its significance in the weighing ceremony.**
 - The Egyptians portrayed their gods symbolically. The headpieces, objects they held in their hands, and the animal heads they often had all represent something. Every feather, every necklace, every bowl, and every color hold special symbolic significance within their mythological worldview. You may use the image below or Google "Weighing of the Heart Ceremony" for other high quality images for your research.
 - [Link to full size image](#)
 - Share your findings on the **Main Discussion Board** with the class. **Please don't post to Group Discussion Board.**
 - Create a thread and post your thoughtful, clear response. You can attach a document, but be sure to also paste the answers so everyone can access.
 - This is an interactive discussion, so respond to each other's comments and ideas. Do not just write answers down and forget about them.
 - You may write more than one comment or idea; just make sure you have completed the discussion **by Friday at 11:59 PM**.
 - Make sure you reply to at least TWO other students posts (or when necessary, two replies to the same other student) by **Sunday at 11:59 PM**.
 - Due **WEEK SIX**. Check Calendar and Schedule for exact due dates.

Week SEVEN

Journal

1. **Answer** the following question:
Is Gilgamesh a hero according to Joseph Campbell's characteristics? In what ways is he not a hero?
2. **Submit:**
 - Select **Week 7 Journal — Myth & the Hero/ine?** and enter your response to the above question.
 - Again, I expect the journal to be **100-125 words minimum**.

Discussion

Discuss the following questions:

- **Explain the symbolism of the snake stealing Gilgamesh's plant. Does this indicate that Gilgamesh has failed in his quest?**
- **Why is Humbaba portrayed as evil? Do you think Gilgamesh and Enkidu were justified in killing him?**

Post

- For this week's group discussion questions, navigate to your group (link under **"My Groups"** the left sidebar) and find the **Week 7** forum.
- Create a thread and post your edited, thoughtful, clear answers. You can attach a document, but be sure to also paste the responses so everyone can access.
- This is an interactive discussion, so respond to each other's comments and ideas. Do not just write answers down and forget about them.
- You may write more than one comment or idea; just make sure you have completed the discussion by **Friday at 11:59 pm**.
- Make sure you reply to at least **TWO** other students posts (or when necessary, two replies to the same other student) by **Sunday at 11:59 PM**.

Week EIGHT

Brief Research Project:

Google the flood narratives of Gilgamesh and Noah. You will find websites that compare the two according to the Bible and the story of Utnapishtim. Does the evidence suggest that they are the same story, and that the Bible re-tells the story of the Gilgamesh flood? What can we deduce from both the similarities AND differences between the two stories from a mythological perspective? Be specific and look at multiple, authoritative, and varied sources.

- Post in the **Main Discussion** area under **Week 8**. Please don't post to Group Discussion Board.
- Please have your initial response posted by **Friday by 11:59 pm**.
- Remember to reply to at least two other students by **Sunday by 11:59 pm**.
- Check Calendar and Schedule for exact due dates.

Week NINE

Discussion

Discuss the following questions:

- **Compare Jason and Gilgamesh. Which one makes a "better" hero? How did you come to this conclusion? Use specifics from the myth and the lecture materials.**

Post

- For this week's group discussion questions, navigate to your group (link under **"My Groups"** the left sidebar) and find the **Week 9** forum.
- Create a thread and post your edited, thoughtful, clear answers. You can attach a document, but be sure to also paste the answers so everyone can access.
- This is an interactive discussion, so respond to each other's comments and ideas. Do not just write answers down and forget about them.
- You may write more than one comment or idea; just make sure you have completed the discussion by **Friday at 11:59 pm**.
- Make sure you reply to at least **TWO** other students posts (or when necessary, two replies to the same other student) by **Sunday at 11:59 PM**.

Week TEN

The class is also stacked with weekly reading quizzes that cover the newly added materials, short essay assignments as detailed above, and two major exams: one multiple choice, reading comprehension, the other essay format.

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