

# English 523 – Myths & Legends

**Course Description:** The Mythology and Legends course is a one-semester English elective course designed to deepen your awareness, understanding, and appreciation of this literary genre while also using mythology as a source of inspiration for your own creativity. Your study of myths and legends will involve reading fascinating stories from ancient cultures through modern times. You will read, discuss and analyze these unique literary forms.

## Course Outline:

### Unit 1 Creation Myths & Legends

Big Idea: How are the characteristics of creation stories from different cultures alike and different?

### Unit 2 Heroes & Heroines

Big Idea: What are the characteristics of a hero or heroine and how do myths/legends relate to different culture?

### Unit 3 Modern Myths & Legends

Big Idea: How do ancient stories translate into modern society?

### Unit 4 Create YOUR own Myth/Legend

How can you use the framework of “a hero’s journey” to craft your own myth?

## Course Objectives:

### Reading

1. The student understands and uses different skills and strategies to read.
  - 1.1. Use word recognition skills and strategies to read and comprehend text.
  - 1.2. Use vocabulary (word meaning) strategies to comprehend text.
  - 1.3. Build vocabulary through wide reading.
  - 1.4. Apply word recognition skills and strategies to read fluently.
2. The student understands the meaning of what is read.
  - 2.1. Demonstrate evidence of reading comprehension.
  - 2.2. Understand and apply knowledge of text components to comprehend text.
  - 2.3. Expand comprehension by analyzing, interpreting, and synthesizing information and ideas in literary and informational text.
  - 2.4. Think critically and analyze author’s use of language, style, purpose, and perspective in literary and informational text.
3. The student reads different materials for a variety of purposes.
  - 3.1. Read to learn new information.
  - 3.2. Read to perform a task.
  - 3.3. Read for career applications.
  - 3.4. Read for literary experience in a variety of genres.
4. The student sets goals and evaluates progress to improve reading.
  - 4.1. Assess reading strengths and need for improvement.
  - 4.2. Develop interests and share reading experiences.

### Writing

1. The student understands and uses a writing process.
  - 1.1. Pre-writes to generate ideas and plan writing.
  - 1.2. Produces draft(s).
  - 1.3. Revises to improve text.
  - 1.4. Edits text.
  - 1.5. Publishes text to share with audience.
  - 1.6. Adjusts writing process as necessary.
2. The student writes in a variety of forms for different audiences and purposes.
  - 2.1. Adapts writing for a variety of audiences.

- 2.2. Writes for different purposes.
- 2.3. Writes in a variety of forms/genres.
- 2.4. Writes for career applications.
- 3. The student writes clearly and effectively.
  - 3.1. Develops ideas and organizes writing.
  - 3.2. Uses appropriate style.
  - 3.3. Knows and applies writing conventions appropriate for the grade level.
- 4. The student analyzes and evaluates the effectiveness of written work.
  - 4.1. Analyzes and evaluates others' and own writing.
  - 4.2. Sets goals for improvement.

**Communication**

- 1. The student uses listening and observation skills and strategies to gain understanding.
  - 1.1. Uses listening and observation skills and strategies to focus attention and interpret information.
  - 1.2. Understands, analyzes, synthesizes, or evaluates information from a variety of sources.
- 2. The student uses communication skills and strategies to interact/work effectively with others.
  - 2.1. Uses language to interact effectively and responsibly in a multicultural context.
  - 2.2. Uses interpersonal skills and strategies in a multicultural context to work collaboratively, solve problems, and perform tasks.
  - 2.3. Uses skills and strategies to communicate inter-culturally.
- 3. The student uses communication skills and strategies to effectively present ideas and one's self in a variety of situations.
  - 3.1. Uses knowledge of topic/theme, audience, and purpose to plan presentations.
  - 3.2. Uses media and other resources to support presentations.
  - 3.3. Uses effective delivery.
- 4. The student analyzes and evaluates the effectiveness of communication.
  - 4.1. Assesses effectiveness of one's own and others' communication.
  - 4.2. Sets goals for improvement.

**Number/Description of Projects, Exams, Activities, etc:**

- 15 Activities – Within each of the units, students must complete formative activities including reading responses to short stories. When completed, the activities provide feedback to students on ways to improve learning for better understanding.
- 5 Journal Discussion Assignments – At the end of each of the units, students will complete a journal assignment. The teacher and other students read each journal assignment and provides and feedback.
- 1 Presentation - Students are encouraged to present their understanding in a variety of alternative ways using technology
- 1 Written Project – Students use the writing process to compose a myth or legend.

**Materials:**

Timelines & Methods for evaluating student progress: Students are expected to log in daily and submit assignments on a weekly basis. Progress will be evaluated each month based progress towards assignment completion of assignments.

This course meets state and district graduation requirements in the area of English.

Weekly contact will be conducted through a submitted assignment with instructor feedback. Students who do not submit an assignment are expected to email or call his/her instructor.

Each student is expected to spend a minimum of five hours per week on this course. Additional hours may be necessary to complete the course successfully.