



**DEPARTMENT OF ARTS & EDUCATION**

**COURSE OUTLINE – WINTER 2021**

**EN4103M (A3): Literary Genres Series – 3 (6-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Craig Smith  
**OFFICE:** C308

**PHONE:** 780-539-2894

**E-MAIL:**  
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**OFFICE HOURS:** By appointment

**WINTER 2021 DELIVERY: Remote Delivery.** This course is delivered remotely. There are no face-to-face or onsite requirements. Students must have a computer with a webcam and reliable internet connection. Technological support is available through [helpdesk@gprc.ab.ca](mailto:helpdesk@gprc.ab.ca).

**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:** A variable-content seminar course on specific literary themes or genres such as the Faust figure, the motif of survival in Canadian literature, the frontier as a recurrent idea in American literature, comedy, tragedy, Romanticism, Neoclassicism, and writing by women. Students may take different-genre, different-theme versions of this course.

**PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE:** Six credits of junior English

**REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:**

Unsworth, Barry – *The Songs of the Kings*

Barker, Pat – *The Silence of the Girls*

Atwood, Margaret – *The Penelopiad*

Toibin, Colm – *House of Names*

Haynes, Natalie – *The Children of Jocasta*

Shamsie, Kamila – *Home Fire*

Other class materials will be posted to myClass (D2L); it is your responsibility to ensure that you are able to access these materials well in advance of the class in which they will be discussed.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** This course focuses on contemporary variations on classical Greek myths. Reading and viewing works about gods, kings, and heroes, we will gain an appreciation of the legends and stories that have existed in one form or another from the very beginnings of literature to our own present day. In addition to learning who's who in the bewildering world of myth and acquainting ourselves with some of the most dramatic, exciting, scandalous, and bizarre characters and narratives

ever dreamt up, we will try to figure out what myths tell us about the human condition, how ancient tales still meet our 21st-century needs, and why some myths insist on being re-told. Where necessary and appropriate, we will contextualize our readings of these literary adaptations with reference to and discussion of key source texts associated with figures such as Homer, Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides. We will also draw on a lexicon derived from adaptation studies and situate our discussion of specific adaptations of Greek myth within a wider culture of remakes, reboots, and retellings.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** After taking this course, the successfully participating students will demonstrate the following:

- An ability to define and apply terminology appropriate to adaptation studies and adaptive literature
- An ability to identify key mythological figures and to explain the relationships between them
- An ability to identify key source texts and to discuss the relation between source texts and adaptations
- An ability to perform close textual analysis and write argumentatively about primary sources

#### **TRANSFERABILITY:**

**This course is considered a University Transferable Course; however, the student has the final responsibility for ensuring the transferability of this course to Alberta Colleges and Universities.**

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferralberta.ca>.

**\*\* Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability and transferable grades.**

#### **EVALUATIONS:**

Participation – 10%

Reading Quizzes – 5%

Discussion Leading Activity – 10%

Paper 1 – 20%

Paper 2 – 25%

Final Exam – 30%

**Note:** The final examination for this course must be taken online with the use of Respondus Lockdown Browser and Respondus Monitor exam proctoring software. Students must download Lockdown Browser and Respondus Monitor will automatically start with examinations through myClass. The proctoring software is a requirement to uphold academic integrity and is necessary to meet accreditation requirements. Lockdown Browser and Respondus Monitor requires Windows or Mac

desktop, laptop, or iPad platforms. Chromebooks, smart phones, and other tablets are not supported. If you do not have access to a Windows or Mac desktop, laptop or iPad, you can book a College PC via the GPRC App -> On-campus Reservations.

You can learn more about Respondus Lockdown Browser and Respondus Monitor here:

<https://web.respondus.com/lockdownbrowser-student-video/>. It is important to note that the software recordings are automated systems and are designed to be less intrusive than in-person proctors. The software is only running while you are signed in during your exam. The exam administrators only review the recordings after the exam is submitted and only if it was flagged due to suspicious activity. The collection and use of your personal information is in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act S. 33 (c) which states that “No personal information may be collected by or for a public body unless that information relates directly to and is necessary for an operating program or activity of the public body.” In addition S. 39 (4) states, “A public body may use personal information only to the extent necessary to enable the public body to carry out its purpose in a reasonable manner.”

If you are unable to complete your examinations using the proctoring software, you may request alternative accommodations to the online testing by contacting your instructor and the GPRC Testing Centre by telephone at 780-539-2212 to arrange to write your exam. Students must book their examinations no less than 2-weeks in advance of the test date and students who choose to write an examination in the GPRC Testing Centre are responsible for the \$30 sitting fee.

**GRADING CRITERIA:** Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines		Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	90-100		C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-89		C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84		C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79		D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76		D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72		F	0.0	00-49

## COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Weeks 1-2: Introduction to Greek myth and to Adaptation Studies

Weeks 2-4: Trojan War Cycle I: Prelude to War

Weeks 4-6: Trojan War Cycle II: Greek heroes at Troy

Weeks 7-11: Trojan War Cycle III: War's Aftermath

Weeks 12-15: Variations on the Theban Cycle: Oedipal Families

### STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Written assignments are to be uploaded to myClass (D2L). Students must accept the Turnitin agreement to submit written work.
2. Written assignments are to be submitted *on time*. Late assignments will incur a penalty of 5% per day, with weekends counting as two days.
3. Extensions will not be granted for written assignments except in extenuating circumstances. Documentation will be required.
4. Classes will be synchronous and students are expected to attend *all* remotely delivered classes. Unexcused absences will negatively affect the participation component of a student's grade and could result in a failing grade for that component of a student's final mark. Students who attend only part of a class, rather than the whole class, will be considered absent for that class.
5. Students are required to check this course's myClass page before each class to stay informed concerning the schedule of readings as well as course updates and announcements.
6. As this is a senior-level English course, student participation is crucial. There are several ways to participate, and my expectation is that you will contribute to your peers' educational experience throughout the semester by sharing your thoughts, offering counterinterpretations, answering my questions, or raising questions of your own. I have especially high expectations when students are leading the discussion. Students who do not participate from time to time during their peers' turns leading the discussion will receive a failing grade for participation for the year.
7. This is an unusual semester, and it will bring unique challenges to all of us. Accordingly, it is especially important for all of us to work to foster a respectful, collegiate environment when we meet. **Please have your webcams turned on during class time.** The chat function of Zoom is reserved for class-related discussions. There will be zero tolerance for belligerence and rudeness between students.

8. Students should feel free to email me with questions or concerns at any point during the semester. That said, be aware that all your instructors are expecting a high volume of emails due to the situation created by the Covid-19 pandemic. This means that although I will do my best to respond to your emails as quickly as possible, students should anticipate a 24-48 hour delay (depending on which day, the time of the day, what stage of the semester we're in, etc.). Students should also be prepared to meet with me via Zoom to discuss any matters that cannot be answered quickly through email (going over a draft of an upcoming assignment, reviewing comments on a marked assignment, etc.).

9. The final exam for this class will be scheduled by the registrar and will take place in April. The exam will not be rescheduled except in extenuating circumstances. Documentation will be required for any student wishing to write the final exam on an alternate date.

Refer to the College Policy on Student Rights and Responsibilities at [www.gprc.ab.ca/d/STUDENTRIGHTSRESPONSIBILITIES](http://www.gprc.ab.ca/d/STUDENTRIGHTSRESPONSIBILITIES)

#### **STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:**

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Calendar at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies>

**\*\*Note:** all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.