

North Central Michigan College

NCMC MASTER COURSE SYLLABUS

Last Date Revised: 11/21/05

DIVISION/AREA: Humanities

DEPARTMENT: English

DIVISION DIRECTOR: Mark Gaylord

ORIGINATOR: Suzanne R. Shumway

DEAN OF INSTRUCTION: Tim Dykstra

HOURS OF INSTRUCTION:

Credit hours: 3

Lecture: 3

Lab: 0

Contact hours: 52.8

COURSE TITLE: Modern Mythology: Tolkien and Lewis

COURSE ALPHA: English

COURSE NUMBER: 255

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

An examination of a selection of works by two of the most popular fantasy writers of the 20th century.

PREREQUISITE(S): None

COREQUISITE(S):

GENERAL EDUCATION/PROGRAM OUTCOMES: Think critically and analytically. Specifically, students must demonstrate the ability to:

- Analyze a literary text in order to identify important themes, motifs, generic and literary conventions;
- Understand how mythology can inform and express perceptions about the world we live in;
- Relate various works of fantasy literature to each other.

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES: Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- Be able to define "mythology";
- Understand what literary conventions appear in the works of Tolkien and Lewis;
- Know some of the major themes in the fantasy literary tradition;
- Develop a knowledge base of fantasy literature with which to contextualize and understand works by other authors;

Students will meet these outcomes by:

- Completing several written quizzes and examinations;
- Producing written papers and oral projects

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

Lecture; whole-class discussion; paper assignments and exams; video

METHODS OF EVALUATION:

Written work (short and long papers); examinations; quizzes; oral presentations

REQUIRED TEXT AT TIME OF COURSE ADOPTION/REVISION:

TEXTS: *The Lord of the Rings*; *The Chronicles of Narnia* (selections); *Till We Have Faces* or the Space Trilogy.

OPTIONAL SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS: Various essays and poems

Reasonable accommodations can be provided to students with documented disabilities. Please contact Learning Support Services at 348-6817 to arrange these.

SUGGESTED TIME ALLOWANCE AND SEQUENCE OF INSTRUCTION:

(List general content description of what is being covered each week)

WEEK 1	Introduction to the course and syllabus
WEEK 2	The Meaning of Myth (Joseph Campbell)
WEEK 3	CS Lewis
WEEK 4	Narnia
WEEK 5	Narnia
WEEK 6	<i>Till We Have Faces</i> or <i>Out of the Silent Planet</i>
WEEK 7	<i>Till We Have Faces</i> or <i>Out of the Silent Planet</i>
WEEK 8	<i>Till We Have Faces</i> or <i>Out of the Silent Planet</i>
WEEK 9	JRR Tolkien
WEEK 10	<i>The Lord of the Rings</i>
WEEK 11	<i>The Lord of the Rings</i>
WEEK 12	<i>The Lord of the Rings</i>
WEEK 13	<i>The Lord of the Rings</i>
WEEK 14	<i>The Lord of the Rings</i>
WEEK 15	<i>The Lord of the Rings</i>
WEEK 16	Final Thoughts

APPROVED FOR ADOPTION/REVISION BY THE CRD/AP COMMITTEE ON 12/14/05