

# North Central Michigan College

## NCMC MASTER COURSE SYLLABUS

Last Date Revised 10/19/05

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DIVISION/AREA: Liberal Arts DEPARTMENT: History

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DIVISION DIRECTOR: Dr. Mark Gaylord ORIGINATOR: James Norgaard

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DEAN OF INSTRUCTION: Dr. Timothy Dykstra

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TOTAL HOURS OF INSTRUCTION: 3 LECTURE: 3 LAB: 0 TOTAL CONTACT HOURS: 52.80

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COURSE NUMBER: HST 141 CREDIT HOURS: 3 (3-0)

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COURSE TITLE: CULTURE AND MYTHOLOGY: QUEST FOR THE GRAIL

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TRANSFERABLE YES: NO: TO:

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PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE(S)/ADVISORY:

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NONE

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### CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

This course will examine the legend of the Holy Grail. The class will include lecture, discussion and guest speakers to examine the relevant religious traditions and historical context of the legend as well as its significance in Western thought.

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### GENERAL EDUCATION OUTCOMES:

The purpose of General Education requirements in our degree programs is to enable students to develop their ability to reason, to communicate effectively in both oral and written form, and to acquire sufficient knowledge of their heritage to participate fully in society and the world.

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### COURSE OBJECTIVES & OUTCOMES:

Through an engaging combination of lecture, readings, videos, journaling, and visualizations, students will explore the key human issues that the Grail legends seek to resolve. What is our pathway to the divine? Will goodness triumph over evil - or is there a "middle way"? What is the role of Nature, society, love, and sex in our salvation? Students will learn of the bloody historical conflicts fought over these and other issues, as people confronted the gathering powers of Church and State in Medieval Europe. Students will study the three major branches of the Grail legend that arose during these turbulent times, discovering several compelling interpretations of the legend and its teachings for personal growth and wisdom. Using tools of visualization, recollection, and journaling, students will then apply these models of mythic interpretation to their own lives. An in-class atmosphere of tolerance for diverse personal beliefs and opinions will be maintained. Good attendance; involved and respectful class participation; and the completion of all tests, journal homework and a special project will form the basis of your grade.

COURSE TITLE AND NUMBER: CULTURE AND MYTHOLOGY: QUEST FOR THE GRAIL HST 141

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## METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

Lecture/Discussions/Videos/Guest Presentations

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## METHODS OF EVALUATION:

Attendance/Class Participation/Tests/Journal/Special Project

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## REQUIRED TEXTS:

Miscellaneous handouts from assorted sources and from THE HOLY GRAIL by Malcolm Goodwin

## OPTIONAL SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS:

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Reasonable accommodations may be provided for students with documented physical, sensory, cognitive, systemic, and/or psychiatric disabilities. Please contact the Learning Support Services at (231) 348-6682 to arrange services for this course.

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## TIME ALLOWANCE AND SEQUENCE OF INSTRUCTION:

Week 1 THE GRAIL QUEST: COURSE INTRODUCTION  
Week 2 V1 LIFE PASSAGES: GRAIL AS PERSONAL ALLEGORY  
Week 3 FROM CAVE TO CHALICE § EDEN TO THE WASTELAND: GRAIL AS CULTURAL ALLEGORY  
Week 4 HOW WE VIEW DEATH: CYCLES OF THE GREEN MAN Movie clip from "Excalibur"  
Week 5 (TEST ONE) Movie "Common Life in Middle Ages"  
Week 6 V2 CRUSADES, HERESY, & INQUISITION: MEDIEVAL CHURCH  
Week 7 (PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT DUE!) REBELLION OF LOVE THE TROUBADOURS  
Week 8 (TEST TWO) Movie Clip?  
Week 9 PERCIVAL: COLORS OF THE WHEEL § RITES OF PASSAGE  
Week 10 V3 (TURN IN JOURNALS) THE WOUNDED HEALER Movie: "The Quest for the Grail"  
Week 11 Movie: "The Fisher King" THE COMPASSION OF CHRIST  
Week 12 Guest speakers (?) QUEST FOR THE AUTHENTIC SELF  
Week 13 (SPECIAL PROJECTS/PRESENTATIONS DUE!) Guest speakers(?)  
PARZIVAL: ALCHEMY AND SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATION  
Week 14 V4 THE GRAIL QUEST TODAY (student presentations)  
Week 15 Student presentations (continued)  
Week 16 (TEST THREE DUE TONIGHT!) THE GRAIL QUEST TODAY

(remaining student presentations)

APPROVED FOR ADOPTION BY THE CRD/AP COMMITTEE ON 10/26/05