

**HCS Curriculum: English / Language Arts 6 – 12
Survey of Mythology (High School)**

Hoover City Schools
Secondary Curriculum Document
English, 2008 - 2009

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Basic Course Information:

Course Title:	Survey of Mythology
Grade Level:	10 - 12
Course Description:	This is a year-long academic elective course that is offered through the English department. The course includes a survey of the major myths of Greek, Roman, and Norse antiquity, including the appropriate gods, heroes and heroines, and the stories these cultures told about them. Within the course, students examine the nature and social function of mythology. A particular focus of the course is the legacy of mythology in modern literature and popular culture.
State COS Correlate:	None
Calendar Type:	Year
Pre-requisite:	Completion of English-9 with a passing grade
Co-requisite:	None
LEA Curriculum Authors:	J. Irons (SPHS)

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Instructional Content Sequence:

Unit #	Unit Titles 1 st nine-weeks	COS Content Strands / Standards				
		Reading	Literature	Writing & Language	Research & Inquiry	Oral & Visual Communication
1	Ancient Greek culture	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
2*	The gods, the Creation, and the Earliest Heroes	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
3*	Stories of Love and	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

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Unit #	Unit Titles 1 st nine-weeks	COS Content Strands / Standards				
		Reading	Literature	Writing & Language	Research & Inquiry	Oral & Visual Communication
	Adventure					
4*	The Great Heroes before the Trojan War	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Unit #	Unit Titles 2 nd nine-weeks	COS Content Strands / Standards				
		Reading	Literature	Writing & Language	Research & Inquiry	Oral & Visual Communication
5	Ancient Roman culture	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
6*	The Heroes of the Trojan War	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
7*	The Great Families of Mythology	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
8*	The Less Important Myths	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Unit #	Unit Titles 3 rd nine-weeks	COS Content Strands / Standards				
		Reading	Literature	Writing & Language	Research & Inquiry	Oral & Visual Communication
9	Ancient Western European culture	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
10*	The Mythology of the Norsemen	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
11	Mythical Creatures	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
12	Arthurian Legends	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Unit #	Unit Titles 4 th nine-weeks	COS Content Strands / Standards				
		Reading	Literature	Writing & Language	Research & Inquiry	Oral & Visual Communication
13	Selected culture and mythology of instructor's choice	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
14	Non-European culture and mythology of instructor's choice	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
15	Greek Drama	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

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Unit	Unit Titles Non-Sequential <i>To be covered at various times during the academic year</i>	COS Content Strands / Standards				
		Reading	Literature	Writing & Language	Research & Inquiry	Oral & Visual Communication
A	Mythic to Modern Connections	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

*Unit title and textual foundation taken from Edith Hamilton's *Mythology*

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Instructional Units / Learning Outcomes:

Unit 1- Ancient Greek Culture

Guiding Question: What place did mythology have in the lives of ancient Greeks?

Suggested

Resources: [Living in Ancient Greece](http://streaming.discoveryeducation.com/search/assetDetail.cfm?guidAssetID=c28a1869-60c9-4496-979b-eef17ace4275)
<http://streaming.discoveryeducation.com/search/assetDetail.cfm?guidAssetID=c28a1869-60c9-4496-979b-eef17ace4275>

#	Outcome-Based Objectives	Priority	Essential Products
1	In writing, discuss parallels between ancient mythology and modern life, and document using MLA.	Mastery	Compose two original journal entries per week, comparing an element of mythology to an element of modern life.
2	Explain how geography shaped the culture, everyday lives, and myths of ancient Greeks.	Intro	Map of ancient Greece with major settings identified.
3	Name the most well-known writers of mythology, their genres, and most famous works.	Mastery	NA
4	Explain the role of Greek mythology in the Olympic Games.	Mastery	NA
5	Explain the role of Greek mythology in theater.	Mastery	NA
6	Explain the role of Greek mythology in medical treatment.	Mastery	NA
7	Explain why Greece is known as the "Birthplace of Western Civilization."	Mastery	NA

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Unit 2- The gods, the Creation, and the Earliest Heroes

Guiding Question: Who are the major figures in classical mythology, and how did they come to be?

Suggested

Resources: Edith Hamilton's Mythology ISBN 0-446-60725-8
Part One

The Center for Learning's Mythology ISBN 1-56077-395-2

Those Fabulous Folks on Mount Olympus, 1986. DVD

#	Outcome-Based Objectives	Priority	Essential Products
1	In writing, discuss parallels between ancient mythology and modern life, and document using MLA.	Mastery	Compose two original journal entries per week, comparing an element of mythology to an element of modern life.
2	Differentiate between classical and primitive myths.	Mastery	Independently complete a family tree, beginning with Chaos, and ending with the major and minor Olympians.
3	Name the Titans.	Intro	
4	Identify names (Greek and Roman), domains, key relationships, attributes, and associated symbolism of the major divine and human characters in the most famous stories of classical mythology.	Intro	
5	Examine the Greek version of Creation.	Mastery	NA
6	Explore the creation of human beings, the fall, and the bringing of death into the world as seen in Greek culture.	Mastery	NA
7	Identify names (Greek and Roman), domains, key relationships, attributes, and associated symbolism of the lesser gods and goddesses in classical mythology, including the two great gods of earth.	Mastery	NA
8	Describe the concept of explanatory myths dealing with animals and flowers.	Mastery	NA
9	Deepen knowledge of explanatory myths through a study of constellations, signs of the zodiac, and planets.	Mastery	NA

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Unit 3- Stories of Love and Adventure

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Guiding Question: What are some of the most well-known love and adventure myths in classical mythology?

Suggested

Resources: Edith Hamilton's Mythology ISBN 0-446-60725-8
 Part Two
 The Center for Learning's Mythology ISBN 1-56077-395-2
The Power of Myth, 1988. DVD

#	Outcome-Based Objectives	Priority	Essential Products
1	In writing, discuss parallels between ancient mythology and modern life, and document using MLA.	Mastery	Two original journal entries per week, comparing an element of mythology to an element of modern life.
2	Examine, compare, and/or contrast pairs of mythological lovers.	Mastery	NA
3	Read and discuss to discover the purpose of the stories of the love affairs of Zeus with goddesses and with mortal women.	Mastery	NA
4	Define syncretism, as it relates to Greek mythology.	Mastery	NA
5	Explore the concept of the hero throughout the ages through reading and writing.	Mastery	NA
6	Examine Jason's quest for the Golden Fleece as part of the hero tradition.	Mastery	NA
7	Identify quests in mythology, in other literature, and in life.	Mastery	NA
8	Write a "Missing Myth" in which you fully describe an original god or goddess and his/her domains, key relationships, attributes, and associated symbolism.	Enrichment	One typed original myth about an original god or goddess; One 8.5 x 11 illustration of the new god/goddess.

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Unit 4- The Great Heroes before the Trojan War

Guiding Question: Who were the heroes of classical mythology prior to the Trojan War?

Suggested

Resources: Edith Hamilton's Mythology ISBN 0-446-60725-8
 Part Three
 The Center for Learning's Mythology ISBN 1-56077-395-2

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#	Outcome-Based Objectives	Priority	Essential Products
1	In writing, discuss parallels between ancient mythology and modern life, and document using MLA.	Mastery	Two original journal entries per week, comparing an element of mythology to an element of modern life.
2	Examine elements of magic while evaluating Perseus' heroic qualities.	Mastery	NA
3	Read to explore Medusa in poems and prose.	Mastery	NA
4	Analyze Theseus' value as an intellectual, compassionate hero.	Mastery	NA
5	Examine the cultural value of strength, while reading the story of Hercules.	Mastery	NA
6	Compare Jason, Perseus, Theseus, and Hercules as heroes.	Mastery	NA

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Unit 5- Ancient Roman culture

Guiding Question: What lessons can the culture of the Roman Empire teach today's society?

Suggested

Resources: [Living in the Roman Empire](#)
<http://streaming.discoveryeducation.com/search/assetDetail.cfm?guidAssetID=40c11eac-70eb-45db-881d-0452f395e945>
[Myths & Legends of Ancient Rome](#)

<http://streaming.discoveryeducation.com/search/assetDetail.cfm?guidAssetID=39b634bc-e678-4bdf-9aaf-a18d95f7bd5a>

#	Outcome-Based Objectives	Priority	Essential Products
1	In writing, discuss parallels between ancient mythology and modern life, and document using MLA.	Mastery	Two original journal entries per week, comparing an element of mythology to an element of modern life.
2	Examine everyday life in ancient Rome, including Roman cities, religion, housing, art, and entertainment	Mastery	NA
3	Trace the growth of the Roman Empire.	Mastery	

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#	Outcome-Based Objectives	Priority	Essential Products
4	Explore the Roman Empire in more detail by marking modern locations on a map of the Empire at its peak.	Intro	Modern map of Europe, shaded to indicate the Roman Empire at its peak.
5	Demonstrate knowledge of Roman Numerals.	Mastery	NA
6	Examine the myth of Romulus and Remus and the founding of Rome.	Mastery	NA

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Unit 6- The Heroes of the Trojan War

Guiding Question: What is an epic?

Suggested

Resources: Edith Hamilton's Mythology ISBN 0-446-60725-8
Part Four

The Center for Learning's Mythology ISBN 1-56077-395-2

#	Outcome-Based Objectives	Priority	Essential Products
1	In writing, discuss parallels between ancient mythology and modern life, and document using MLA.	Mastery	Two original journal entries per week, comparing an element of mythology to an element of modern life.
2	Investigate facts and mythological beliefs about the Trojan War.	Mastery	NA
3	Define “epic” as it relates to literature.	Mastery	NA
4	Explore the well-known epics the <u>Iliad</u> , the <u>Odyssey</u> , and the <u>Aeneid</u> as sources of information about the Trojan War.	Mastery	NA
5	Discuss the Trojan Horse in the context of the Trojan War and as a literary allusion.	Mastery	NA
6	Review the key points of the <u>Odyssey</u> , which students should have read in full in ninth grade.	Mastery	NA

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Unit 7- The Great Families of Mythology

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Guiding Question: Do bad things happen to people because of curses, or because of the perversity of the gods?

Suggested

Resources: Edith Hamilton's Mythology ISBN 0-446-60725-8
Part Five

The Center for Learning's Mythology ISBN 1-56077-395-2

#	Outcome-Based Objectives	Priority	Essential Products
1	In writing, discuss parallels between ancient mythology and modern life, and document using MLA.	Mastery	Two original journal entries per week, comparing an element of mythology to an element of modern life.
2	Analyze the causes and effects of the curse on the House of Atreus.	Mastery	NA
3	Explain the ancient Greek belief in the cycle of evil, retribution, and purification.	Enrichment	A one to two-paged, typed proposal for a modern-day soap opera, to be based on stories from classical mythology. Include descriptions of at least four soap opera characters and two proposed storylines.
4	Examine the Greek belief in the infallibility of oracles and the futility of defying fate.	Mastery	NA
5	Discuss the Oedipus Complex in the context of Greek, Finnish, Ukrainian, and Javanese myths and stories, and as a literary allusion.	Mastery	NA
6	Discuss the relationship between the tragedy in the House of Athens and the demise of Greek mythology.	Mastery	NA

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Unit 8- The Less Important Myths

Guiding Question: What are some short but significant myths in classical mythology?

Suggested

Resources: Edith Hamilton's Mythology ISBN 0-446-60725-8
Part Six

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The Center for Learning's Mythology ISBN 1-56077-395-2

#	Outcome-Based Objectives	Priority	Essential Products
1	In writing, discuss parallels between ancient mythology and modern life, and document using MLA.	Mastery	Two original journal entries per week, comparing an element of mythology to an element of modern life.
2	Analyze selected “mini-myths” for lessons about life.	Mastery	NA
3	Explain the legacies of selected “mini-myths” in the modern world.	Mastery	NA

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Unit 9- Ancient Western European culture

Guiding Question: How did the landscape and climate of Western Europe influence the economic development of ancient civilizations and shape human history?

Suggested

Resources: Geography of the World: Europe: Land and Resources
<http://streaming.discoveryeducation.com/search/assetDetail.cfm?guidAssetID=8791BCED-9250-4CF3-9E40-0B4072617D7A>
Viking Discoveries
<http://streaming.discoveryeducation.com/search/assetDetail.cfm?guidAssetID=BEB627C1-9438-4562-8C27-7A52AA295206>

#	Outcome-Based Objectives	Priority	Essential Products
1	In writing, discuss parallels between ancient mythology and modern life, and document using MLA.	Mastery	Two original journal entries per week, comparing an element of mythology to an element of modern life.
2	Explore the many landforms that define the landscape of Western Europe.	Mastery	NA
3	Examine the climate of Western Europe.	Mastery	NA
4	Analyze the effects of landscape and climate on ancient Western Europe’s economic development.	Mastery	NA
5	Explore the connection between the diversity of Europe's landscape and human history.	Mastery	NA

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Unit 10- The Mythology of the Norsemen

Guiding Question: What was the ancient Norse philosophy of life, how did it differ from the Greek philosophy of life, and what effect did the Norse philosophy have on mythological beliefs of its people?

Suggested

Resources: Edith Hamilton's Mythology ISBN 0-446-60725-8
Part Seven
Glencoe's World Mythology ISBN 0-07-872909-2
The Center for Learning's Mythology ISBN 1-56077-395-2

#	Outcome-Based Objectives	Priority	Essential Products
1	In writing, discuss parallels between ancient mythology and modern life, and document using MLA.	Mastery	Two original journal entries per week, comparing an element of mythology to an element of modern life.
2	Contrast the effect of the Greco-Roman climate on its people with the effect of the Nordic climate on its people.	Mastery	NA
3	Explain how Asgard differs from Mount Olympus.	Mastery	NA
4	Examine the importance that the Norse people placed on courage, as evidenced by their mythic heroes.	Mastery	NA
5	Attack or defend the statement: The Norse conception of life was a reflection of the land in which they lived.	Mastery	NA
6	Using acquired knowledge of classical mythology's divinities, identify their Norse counterparts.	Mastery	NA

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Unit 11- Mythical Creatures

Guiding Question: Why are monsters a part of mythology?

Suggested

Resources: Edith Hamilton's Mythology ISBN 0-446-60725-8
Part Seven
The Center for Learning's Mythology ISBN 1-56077-395-2

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#	Outcome-Based Objectives	Priority	Essential Products
1	In writing, discuss parallels between ancient mythology and modern life, and document using MLA.	Mastery	Two original journal entries per week, comparing an element of mythology to an element of modern life.
2	Review and discuss the monsters found in classical mythology.	Mastery	NA
3	Work with a partner to explain how many monsters in classical mythology are connected to hero myths and why.	Mastery	NA
4	Examine the monsters of Norse mythology and their powers, abilities, and/or purposes.	Mastery	NA
5	Draw and write about a modern-day monster that lives at your home or school.	Enrichment	One typed original myth about an original monster; One 8.5 x 11 illustration of the new monster

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Unit 12- Arthurian Legends

Guiding Question: What evidence is contained within the Arthurian Legends to indicate that the legends are predicated upon the myths of earlier civilizations?

Suggested

Resources: Glencoe's World Mythology ISBN 0-07-872909-2

#	Outcome-Based Objectives	Priority	Essential Products
1	In writing, discuss parallels between ancient mythology and modern life, and document using MLA.	Mastery	Two original journal entries per week, comparing an element of mythology to an element of modern life.
2	Define “legend” as it relates to literature.	Mastery	NA
3	Analyze, discuss, and respond in writing to the legend of King Arthur as presented in the text.	Mastery	NA
4	Identify similarities between this story and prior myths that you have studied.	Mastery	NA

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Unit 13- Selected culture and mythology

Guiding Question: What aspects of this culture and its mythology are significant?

Suggested

Resources: Glencoe’s World Mythology ISBN 0-07-872909-2
<http://streaming.discoveryeducation.com/index.cfm>

#	Outcome-Based Objectives	Priority	Essential Products
1	In writing, discuss parallels between ancient mythology and modern life, and document using MLA.	Mastery	Two original journal entries per week, comparing an element of mythology to an element of modern life.
2	Examine the culture that created the selected mythology.	Mastery	NA
3	Read and analyze selections from the culture’s mythology.	Mastery	NA

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Unit 14- Selected non-European culture and mythology

Guiding Question: What aspects of this culture and its mythology are significant?

Suggested

Resources: Glencoe’s World Mythology ISBN 0-07-872909-2
<http://streaming.discoveryeducation.com/index.cfm>

#	Outcome-Based Objectives	Priority	Essential Products
1	In writing, discuss parallels between ancient mythology and modern life, and document using MLA.	Mastery	Two original journal entries per week, comparing an element of mythology to an element of modern life.
2	Examine the culture that created the selected mythology.	Mastery	NA
3	Read and analyze selections from the culture’s mythology.	Mastery	NA

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Unit 15- Greek Drama

Guiding Question: What did the ancient Greeks contribute to the literary genre of drama?

Suggested

Resources: Class set of one full-length Greek drama not currently taught in English classes, such as but not limited to Oedipus Rex, Medea, or Orestes

#	Outcome-Based Objectives	Priority	Essential Products
1	In writing, discuss parallels between ancient mythology and modern life, and document using MLA.	Mastery	Two original journal entries per week, comparing an element of mythology to an element of modern life.
2	Actively read a Greek drama.	Intro	Active participation in the reading of a Greek drama.
3	Describe the terms, “chorus”, “tragedy”, and “dramatic irony”.	Mastery	
4	Describe the history of Greek drama.	Mastery	
5	Describe the plot of a Greek drama.	Mastery	

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Unit A- Mythic to Modern Connections

Guiding Question: How does mythology relate to my life?

Suggested

Resources: See list of suggestions under “Additional Notes / Resources” below.

#	Outcome-Based Objectives	Priority	Essential Products
1	Explain parallels between ancient mythology and modern life, and document using MLA	Mastery	Eighteen original journal entries per nine weeks, each to include a title, one fact from mythology, with citation, at least one modern-day connection, with citation, and at least one illustration
2	Name the Titans and the major and minor divinities of Greek mythology.	Intro	Independently complete a family tree, beginning with Chaos,

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#	Outcome-Based Objectives	Priority	Essential Products
			and ending with the major and minor Olympians.
3	Explore the Roman Empire in more detail by marking modern locations on a map of the Empire at its peak.	Intro	Modern map of Europe, shaded to indicate the Roman Empire at its peak.
4	Write a “Missing Myth” in which you fully describe an original god or goddess and his/her domains, key relationships, attributes, and associated symbolism.	Enrichment	One typed original myth about an original god or goddess; One 8.5 x 11 illustration of the new god/goddess.
5	Explore the Roman Empire in more detail by marking modern locations on a map of the Empire at its peak.	Intro	Modern map of Europe, shaded to indicate the Roman Empire at its peak.
6	Explain the ancient Greek belief in the cycle of evil, retribution, and purification.	Enrichment	A one to two-paged, typed proposal for a modern-day soap opera, to be based on stories from classical mythology. Include descriptions of at least four soap opera characters and two proposed storylines.
7	Draw and write about a modern-day monster that lives at your home or school.	Enrichment	One typed original myth about an original monster; One 8.5 x 11 illustration of the new monster
8	Actively read a Greek drama.	Intro	Active participation in the reading of a Greek drama.

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Reading List:

Unit #	Title / Type of Work	Source
NA	NA	NA

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Alabama Course of Study Correlation: **Not Applicable (Locally-Approved Elective)**

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Alabama High School Graduation Exam (AHSGE) Correlation: **Not Applicable (Locally-Approved Elective)**

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ACT College Readiness Standards Correlation: **Not Applicable (Locally-Approved Elective)**

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Additional Notes / Resources:

- Joseph Campbell's The Power of Myth DVD
- Mythology: Myths, Legends, & Fantasies ISBN 1-74048-091-0

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