



Rochester Community Schools

English Language Arts (ELA) Credit By Exam

Preparation for Myths CBE

GRADES: 11-12 **PREREQUISITE:** English/Language Arts 10

This semester literature course examines myths over time and across cultures. Students explore how archetypes in myths symbolize human experience and embody the spiritual values of a culture. Through reading and analyzing myths, students address fundamental and thoughtful questions. Through the study of myths, students better understand our connection to other people at a time when the welfare of each culture depends on the attitudes and actions of other cultures. Students deepen their understanding of the myths, compare myths across cultures and explore connections of myths to their own lives through discussion, writing assignments, projects and journals. Cultures of study may include Greek, Roman, Norse, Egyptian, Native American, Chinese, Sumerian, and Babylonian, among others.

To prepare for the Credit by Exam (CBE) for this course, you will need to do the following:

Read and/or view the following texts and supplemental materials:

Mythology by Edith Hamilton

[Gods and Goddesses](#) - A History Channel documentary

Joseph Campbell's [Monomyth and its stages](#) - apply to the stories of Hercules and Perseus (found in *Mythology* by Edith Hamilton) as well as the story of [Beowulf](#) (there are several parts to understanding this story - watch them all), and then connect the learning to a modern day hero (such as Captain America, Wonder Woman, or Black Panther).

Complete this [Nearpod](#) lesson to understand God-teacher/Losing Innocence myths

Be prepared to discuss the following about the texts you read:

- Know the Greek Olympians and their realms (found in the Hamilton text) and the Greek story of the creation of the world.
- Understand the differences between myths, legends, and folk tales.
- Common elements found in creation of the world stories, loss of innocence myths, in stories of floods/apocalypses, in hero stories, and in afterlife myths (including the Greek and Egyptian afterlives as well as Dante's *Inferno*).

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- Trace the hero's journey of at least 2 heroes (one mythical and one modern) using the Monomyth stages.
- Understand the role of ceremony when related to losing innocence/coming of age rituals and why they're important to the cultures who celebrate them.
- Connect your study of these ancient myths to modern day society. In what ways is mythology still relevant today? What can modern people learn from myths? Why is this subject matter worth studying?

On the CBE date:

- Be prepared to take a 50 question assessment based on the topics and texts listed above. Some questions will require you to apply your knowledge of certain types of myths to a new story.
- Be prepared to write a short essay (2-3 paragraphs) that connect your understanding of several types of myths, highlighting specific stories as examples, and the relevance of these stories to modern life.

In order to earn credit for this course, students must earn a 77% or higher on each of the components. Failure to reach that standard on each section will result in no credit.