

A History of Mythology and Modern Fantasy Literature:

Course of Study 2022-2023 Fall and Winter Semester:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday:

Fall Semester 2022: One Course to Rule Them All: The History Behind J.R.R. Tolkien and the World of Middle Earth:

I. Outline of Course Topics and Due Dates for each Week:

A. Course Schedule and Topics:

1. **Week 1: September 5-September 9:** Tolkien's Mirror: The Historical Influences on the World of Middle Earth: The Architect of Middle Earth: (1892-1973) Part 1:
2. **Week 2: September 12-16:** Tolkien's Mirror: The Historical Influences on the World of Middle Earth: Part 2: The Architect of Middle Earth: (1892-1973) Part 2: Film: *Tolkien*.
3. **Week 3: September 19-23:** *The Hobbit*: Part 1: Chapters 1-6: Film: *The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey*.
4. **Week 4: September 26-October 7:** *The Hobbit*: Part 2: Chapters 7-12: Film: *The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug*: September 26-27 and October 5th, No class: Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.
5. **Week 5: October 11-14:** *The Hobbit*: Part 3: Chapters 13-19: Film: *The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies*.
6. **Week 6: October 17-21:** *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring*: Part 1: Book I: Chapters 1-7.
7. **Week 7: October 24-28:** *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring*: Part 2: Book I: Chapters 8-12: Term Paper and Assignment Topics Handed Out Friday October 28th.
8. **Week 8: October 31-November 4:** *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring*: Part 3: Book II: Chapters 1-5: Film: *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring*: (Prologue to the Council of Elrond):
9. **Week 9: November 7-11:** *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring*: Part 4: Book II: Chapters 6-10: Film: *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring*: (The Ring Goes South-The Departure of Boromir).
10. **Week 10: November 14-18:** *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*: Part 1: Book III: Chapters 1-5: Take Home Exam 1: Due Sunday: November 20th.
11. **November 21-25:** Thanksgiving Break and Time to Work on Term Papers and Presentations: (Please discuss together on class message boards throughout the week).
12. **Week 11: November 28- December 2:** *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*: Part 2: Book III: Chapters 6-11.
13. **Week 12: December 5-9:** *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*: Part 3: Book IV: Chapters 1-5: Film: *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*: (Frodo's Dream-Of Herbs and Stewed Rabbit).

14. **Week 13: December 12-16:** *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*: Part 4: Book IV: Chapters 6-10: Film: *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*: (The Refuges of Rohan-The Tales that Really Mattered).
15. **Week 14: December 19-23:** *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King*: Part 1: Book V: Chapters 1-5.
16. **December 24-January 1:** Winter Break and Time to Work on Term Papers.
17. **Week 15: January 2-6:** *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King*: Part 2: Book V: Chapters 6-10.
18. **Week 16: January 9-13:** *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King*: Part 3: Book VI: Chapters 1-5: Film: *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King*: (The Finding of the Ring-The Siege of Gondor).
19. **Week 17: January 16-20:** *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King*: Part 4: Book VI: Chapters 6-9: Film: *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King*: (The Corsairs of Umbar-The Grey Havens).
20. **Week 18: January 23-27:** The Appendices, *The Silmarillion*, and the other Tales of Middle Earth: Film: *The Lord of the Rings: The Rings of Power*.
21. Take Home Exam 2: Due Tuesday January 31st.

Spring Semester 2023: J.K. Rowling and the “Real” History of Magic and Mythology Behind the Wizarding World of Harry Potter:

II. Outline of Course Topics and Due Dates for each Week:

A. Course Schedule and Topics:

1. **Week 1: January 30-February 3:** The Mirror of Erised: The Historical Influences on J.K. Rowling the Hogwarts Saga: Part 1: *J.K. Rowling Beyond the Magic*.
2. **Week 2: February 6-10:** The History of Mythology Part 1a: Magic and Mythology in the Bible 1: *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone*: Part 1: (Chapters 1-6) and Part 2: (Chapters 7-11): Film: *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone* Part 1.
3. **Week 3: February 13-17:** The History of Mythology Part 1b: Magic and Mythology in the Bible 2. *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone*: Part 3: (Chapters 12-17). Film: *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone* Part 2.
4. **Week 4: February 20-24:** The History of Mythology Part 2a: The Magic and Mythology of Ancient Egypt 1. *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*: Part 1: (Chapters 1-6) and Part 2: (Chapters 7-11): Film: *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* Part 1.
5. **Week 5: February 27-March 3:** The History of Mythology Part 2b: The Magic and Mythology of Ancient Egypt 2. *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*: Part 3: (Chapters 12-18). Film: *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* Part 2.
6. **Week 6: March 6-10:** The History of Mythology Part 3a: The Magic and Mythology of the Ancient Near East: Babylonia, Persia, and India 1. *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*: Part 1: (Chapters 1-8) and Part 2: (Chapters 9-16): Film: *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* Part 1.
7. **Week 7: March 13-17:** The History of Mythology Part 3b: The Magic and Mythology of the Ancient Near East: Babylonia, Persia, and India 2. *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*: Part 3: (Chapters 17-19) and Part 4: (Chapters 20-22): Film: *Harry Potter and*

the Prisoner of Azkaban Part 2. Term Paper and Assignment Topics Handed Out Friday March 17th.

8. **Week 8: March 20-24:** : The History of Mythology Part 4a: Magic, Witchcraft and the Occult in East Asia: China and Japan 1. *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*: Part 1: (Chapters 1-8) and Part 2: (Chapters 9-17): Film: *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* Part 1.
9. **Week 9: March 27-31:** : The History of Mythology Part 4b: Magic, Witchcraft and the Occult in East Asia: China and Japan 2. *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*: Part 3: (Chapters 18-27) and Part 2: (Chapters 28-37): Film: *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* Part 2.
10. **April 1-9:** Spring Break and Time to Work on Term Papers and Presentations: (Please discuss together on class message boards throughout the week). Take Home Exam 3: Due Thursday: Thursday April 4th.
11. **Week 10: April 10-14:** The History of Mythology Part 5a: Magic, Witchcraft and the Occult in the African Traditions 1: *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*: Part 1: (Chapters 1-8) and Part 2: (Chapters 9-18): Film: *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix* Part 1.
12. **Week 11: April 17-21:** The History of Mythology Part 5b: Magic, Witchcraft and the Occult in the African Traditions 2: *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*: Part 3: (Chapters 19-28) and Part 2: (Chapters 29-38): Film: *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix* Part 2.
13. **Week 12: May 1-5:** The History of Mythology Part 6a: The History of Greek and Roman Mythology 1. *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*: Part 1: (Chapters 1-8) and Part 2: (Chapters 9-18): Film: *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* Part 1.
14. **Week 13: May 8-12:** The History of Mythology Part 6b: The History of Greek and Roman Mythology 2. *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*: Part 3: (Chapters 19-26) and Part 4: (Chapters 27-30): Film: *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* Part 2.
15. **Week 14: May 15-19:** The History of Mythology Part 7a: History of Magic, Witchcraft, and the Occult in Medieval Europe 1: *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*: Part 1: (Chapters 1-9) and Part 2: (Chapters 10-19): Film: *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* Part 1 (Full Film).
16. **Week 15: May 22-26:** The History of Mythology Part 7b: History of Magic, Witchcraft, and the Occult in Medieval Europe 2: *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*: Part 3: (Chapters 20-29) and Part 4: (Chapters 30-Epilogue): Film: *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* Part 2 (Full Film).
17. **Week 16: May 29-June 2:** The History of Mythology Part 8: The Real History of the Salem Witch Trials: *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* (Full Play): Pottermore and Questions of Cannon in the Wizarding World: Term Paper Introduction and Bibliography Due.
18. **Week 17: June 5-9:** The History of Mythology Part 9: Comparisons with Tolkien and *The Lord of the Rings: Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*: Film 1.

19. **Week 18: June 12-16:** The History of Mythology Part 10: Comparisons with George Lucas and *The Star Wars Saga* Part 1: *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them: The Crimes of Grindelwald*: Film 2:
20. **Week 19: June 19-23:** The History of Mythology Part 11: Comparisons with George Lucas and *The Star Wars Saga* Part 2: *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them: The Secrets of Dumbledore*: Film 3:
21. Take Home Exam 4: Due Wednesday June 28th.