Module Definition Form (MDF)

Module code: MOD009584	**Version:** 1 **Date Amended:** 30/Oct/2023

1. Module Title
Myth, Miracle and Magic

2a. Module Leader
Sarah Brown

2b. School
School of Humanities and Social Sciences

2c. Faculty
Faculty of Arts, Humanities, Education and Social Sciences

3a. Level
4

3b. Module Type
Standard (fine graded)

4a. Credits
15

4b. Study Hours
150

5. Restrictions

Type	Module Code	Module Name	Condition
Pre-requisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
Courses to which this module is restricted:			

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

This module will introduce you to some of the key Greek, Roman and Biblical texts which underpin English literature and which have been translated and adapted by each new generation of writers. Comparisons will also be drawn with mythical and magical narratives from other traditions, such as the tales included in The Arabian Nights.

Over the course of the module you will engage with the ways in which these pivotal stories have continued to have a shaping influence on English literature, and with the different ways in which they have been interpreted by later readers and writers. This module will complement the other literature modules you are taking this year as it will help you appreciate the importance of understanding the larger literary culture within which works such as Paradise Lost and The Waste Land were produced.

You will study creation narratives from different cultures, comparing and contrasting classical stories, such as the myth of Prometheus, with the Genesis narrative, before exploring how all these ancient stories have been revised and updated by later writers and artists. You will consider the different ways in which writers have depicted the struggles between humanity and the gods – creating stories full of heroic adventures, human suffering and inner conflict. You will have the opportunity to read several different narratives of magic and transformation, including some of the memorable myths the Roman poet Ovid included in his Metamorphoses. You will learn about the classical origins of familiar fairy tales, before exploring how these fairy tales, in their turn, have been reinvented for a modern age.

6b. Outline Content

- Classical and Biblical influences on English Literature Myth
- Epic
- Fairy Tale
- Allusion and Adaptation

6c. Key Texts/Literature

The reading list to support this module is available at: https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

None

7. Learning Outcomes (threshold standards)		
No.	**Type**	**On successful completion of this module the student will be expected to be able to:**
1	Knowledge and Understanding	Show knowledge of a range of classical and Biblical texts
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Understand their influence on English literature
3	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate an understanding of the way genres and motifs change over time and between cultures
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Communicate the above knowledge and understanding in coherent, competently written English

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	**Occurrence**	**Period**	**Location**	**Mode of Delivery**
2026/7	ZZF	Template For Face To Face Learning Delivery		Face to Face

8b. Learning Activities for the above Module Occurrence			
Learning Activities	**Hours**	**Learning Outcomes**	**Details of Duration, frequency and other comments**
Lectures	0	N/A	N/A
Other teacher managed learning	24	1-3	12 x 2-hour seminars
Student managed learning	126	1-4	Reading, seminar preparation and research, planning and writing of assignments
TOTAL:	150		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence

The assessment for some modules includes a presentation (see below for details on how this particular module is assessed). We recognise that presenting, especially to a large group, can cause significant anxiety or distress for some students. If this may affect you, please contact your Module Leader or the Disability and Neurodiversity Service as early as possible. We will work with you to consider appropriate reasonable adjustments. Depending on your individual needs, these might include, for example, presenting to a smaller group or presenting only to a member of academic staff.

Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Coursework	1-4	30 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
1000 words Comparative close reading exercise					
Assessment No.	**Assessment Method**	**Learning Outcomes**	**Weighting (%)**	**Fine Grade or Pass/Fail**	**Qualifying Mark (%)**
011	Coursework	1-4	70 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
2000 word essay					

In order to pass this module, students are required to achieve an overall mark of 40% (for modules at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6) or 50% (for modules at level 7*).

In addition, students are required to:
(a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above
(b) pass any pass/fail elements

[* the pass mark of 50% applies for all module occurrences from the academic year 2024/25 – see Section 3a of this MDF to check the level of the module and Section 8a of this MDF to check the academic year]