This class explores the wide realm of literature concerned with myth, folk, imagination and dream. As Ursula LeGuin has it, “We are realists of a larger reality.” The class has an historical focus and is designed to explore the linguistic and historical particularities of some of the more popular mythologies and folk tales in the Western and world traditions.

Required Texts:


The first edition has many of the same texts, but you will want to consult with someone who has the second edition for the criticism and anything new.

Battles, ed., *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, Broadview

Grading:

Oral report on a critic or critical school 20%

Bring in a Symbolist Poem Day 20%

*Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* word study 30%

Final Paper on a work of your choice 30%

Late Policy:

Work can be turned in up to one week late with a full grade penalty in the case of a compelling emergency. Please let me know as soon as possible.

Schedule of Classes:

Please read the relevant sections and texts in the Tatar book or SGGK before class. WE will divide up the critical reading amongst all of you, to lessen the workload. You can choose one of the critical essays in the back of the Tatar book or from other critics that I can provide. I will give you a sign-up sheet for these presentations.

Jan 30  
Fairy Lovers (text provided)

Feb 6  
Little Red Riding Hood, Beauty and the Beast
Feb 13  Snow White, Sleeping Beauty
Feb 20  Bluebeard
Feb 27  Tricksters
        Tale of the Bamboo-Cutter (http://etc.usf.edu/lit2go/72/japanese-fairy-tales/4834/the-bamboo-cutter-and-the-moon-child/)
Mar 6   Bring a symbolist poem day
Mar 13  SGGK, lines 1-515
Mar 20  SGGK, lines 516-1045
Mar 24-30  SPRING BREAK
Apr 3   SGGK, lines 1046-1557
Apr 10  SGGK, lines 1558-2090
Apr 17  SGGK, lines 1092-end
Apr 24  Presentations of Final Topics  SGGK Word Study DUE
May 1   Presentations of Final Topics
May 8   Presentations of Final Topics

Final Papers DUE: Tuesday, May 22, 2018 by 9 AM
Sign up Sheet for Oral Presentations: No more than 2 people per class

Feb 6  Bloch/Benjamin_________________________________________________
          Darnton/Lüthi_________________________________________________
Feb 13  Gilbert/Gubar and Rowe________________________________________
          Warner/Haase_________________________________________________
Feb 20  Tatar_________________________________________________________
          Uther and Propp______________________________________________
Feb 27  Bacchilega_____________________________________________________
          Zipes/Tiffin___________________________________________________
Mar 6   Malinowski_____________________________________________________
          Eliade_________________________________________________________
Mar 13  Tolkien________________________________________________________
          Campbell_______________________________________________________
Mar 20  Turner________________________________________________________
          Bohannon_______________________________________________________
Apr 3   Geertz_________________________________________________________
          Levi-Strauss_____________________________________________________
Apr 10  Barthes_______________________________________________________

Malinowski, *Magic, Science and Religion*
Eliade, *Rites and Symbols of Initiation*
Tolkien, *On Fairy-Stories*
Campbell, *The Hero with a Thousand Faces*, Myth and Dream
Turner, *The Ritual Process*, Chapter 4, Communitas
Bohannon, *Shakespeare in the Bush*
Geertz, *Notes on the Balinese Cockfight*
Levi-Strauss, *The Savage Mind*, Science of the Concrete
Barthes, *Mythologies, Mythologies*, Myth Today