

Apogee Program Session 2

Course Title: **The Story Behind the Story**

Course Description:

Welcome to enchanted places, mythical creatures, magical spells, and the human quest for immortality and battle against destiny! Before there were books like *Artemis Fowl*, *Eragon*, and *Harry Potter*, there were Greek, Egyptian, Norse, Native American, Germanic, Old English and Icelandic sagas. Authors like Eoin Colfer, Michael Chabon, Christopher Paolini, Neil Gaiman, and J.K. Rowling weave ancient tales and folklore into their novels. Sometimes they leave obvious clues about the stories they have used. Sometimes they leave messages in code. In this course, students examine how pre-existing styles and subjects of storytelling have shaped modern young adult imaginative fiction. Students learn to make cross-cultural connections as they read literature from several periods in order to understand the building of this popular genre. This course offers students who enjoy imaginative fiction the opportunity to explore ancient lore and recognize common themes in literature, skills which will serve them well in future literature classes.

Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify folkloric and mythological allusions in the works of contemporary fantasy authors such as Michael Chabon, Neil Gaiman, J.K. Rowling, and Eoin Colfer
- Write analytical paragraphs explaining the function of particular allusions within particular stories
- Write short works of fiction which use allusion to deepen the meaning of the work
- Define and use terms naming literary devices
- Design and lead literature discussions

Resources:

All students will read:

Summerland, Michael Chabon, Miramax, 2004.

Students will select from:

Artemis Fowl: Books 1-5, Eoin Colfer

Inheritance: Books 1-3, Christopher Paolini

Harry Potter: Books 1-7, J.K. Rowling

His Dark Materials, Philip Pullman.

The Lord of the Rings, J.R.R. Tolkien.

The Chronicles of Narnia, C.S. Lewis.

Ender's Game and the Ender's Shadow Series, Orson Scott Card

The Neverending Story, Michael Ende

In-class lessons will utilize:

Selected short stories and excerpts by Neil Gaiman

D'Aulaires' Book of Greek Myths, Ingri and Edgar D'Aulaire, Delacorte, 1992.

D'Aulaires' Book of Norse Myths, Ingri and Edgar D'Aulaire, New York Review of Books, 2005.

D'Aulaires' Book of Trolls, Ingri and Edgar D'Aulaire, New York Review of Books, 2006.

The *Star Wars* Trilogy and selected episodes of *Star Trek: The Next Generation*

Selected encyclopedia entries on folklore from www.wikipedia.org and godchecker.com

Schedule

Days	Topic(s)	Activities	Assignments and/or Assessment	Differentiation/ Instructional Strategies
M	Introductions Course Overview Literary Allusion to Mythology and Folklore	Introductions and Overview Fiction Reading Folklore Research and Fiction Analysis Literary Game or Video Writing Project #1	Analytical Paragraph(s) Work on Writing Project Draft Homework: Read <i>Summerland</i> to page 33, prepare discussion questions	Self-directed research Open-ended assignments
T	Literary Allusion to Mythology and Folklore	Summerland Discussion Fiction Reading Folklore Research and Fiction Analysis Literary Game or Video Writing Project #1	Analytical Paragraph(s) Work on Writing Project Draft Homework: Read <i>Summerland</i> to page 66, prepare discussion questions	Self-directed research Open-ended assignments
W	Literary Allusion to Mythology and Folklore	Summerland Discussion Fiction Reading Folklore Research and Fiction Analysis Literary Game or Video Writing Project #1	Analytical Paragraph(s) Work on Writing Project Draft Homework: Read <i>Summerland</i> to page 99, prepare discussion questions	Self-directed research Open-ended assignments
Th	Literary Allusion to Mythology and Folklore	Summerland Discussion Fiction Reading Folklore Research and Fiction Analysis Literary Game or Video Writing Project #1	Analytical Paragraph(s) Work on Writing Project Draft Homework: Read <i>Summerland</i> to page 132, prepare discussion questions	Self-directed research Open-ended assignments
F	Literary Allusion to Mythology and Folklore	Summerland Discussion Fiction Reading Folklore Research and Fiction Analysis Literary Game or Video Writing Project Sharing	Analytical Paragraph(s) Writing Project Final Copy due Homework: Read <i>Summerland</i> to page 198, prepare	Self-directed research Open-ended assignments

			discussion questions	
M	Literary Allusion to Mythology and Folklore	Summerland Discussion Fiction Reading Folklore Research and Fiction Analysis Literary Game or Video Writing Project #2	Analytical Paragraph(s) Work on Writing Project Draft Homework: Read <i>Summerland</i> to page 231, prepare discussion questions	Self-directed research Open-ended assignments
T	Literary Allusion to Mythology and Folklore	Summerland Discussion Fiction Reading Folklore Research and Fiction Analysis Literary Game or Video Writing Project #2	Analytical Paragraph(s) Work on Writing Project Draft Homework: Read <i>Summerland</i> to page 264, prepare discussion questions	Self-directed research Open-ended assignments
W	Mythology and Folklore in Art	Summerland Discussion Fiction Reading Folklore Research and Fiction Analysis Literary Game or Video Writing Project Sharing #2	Analytical Paragraph(s) Work on Writing Project Draft Homework: Read <i>Summerland</i> to page 297, prepare discussion questions	Self-directed research Open-ended assignments
Th	Literary Allusion to Mythology and Folklore	Summerland Discussion Possible Field Trip to Medieval Times	Analytical Paragraph(s) Work on Writing Project Draft Homework: Read <i>Summerland</i> to page 330, prepare discussion questions	Self-directed research Open-ended assignments
F	Literary Allusion to Mythology and Folklore	Summerland Discussion Fiction Reading Folklore Research and Fiction Analysis Literary Game or Video Writing Project Sharing	Analytical Paragraph(s) Writing Project Final Copy Due Homework: Read <i>Summerland</i> to page 396, prepare discussion questions	Self-directed research Open-ended assignments
M	Literary Allusion to Mythology and Folklore	Summerland Discussion Fiction Reading Folklore Research and Fiction Analysis Literary Game or Video Work on Expo Day Presentation	Analytical Paragraph(s) Expo Day Group Work Homework: Read <i>Summerland</i> to page 429, prepare discussion questions	Self-directed research Open-ended assignments
T	Literary Allusion	Summerland Discussion	Analytical	Self-directed

	to Mythology and Folklore	Fiction Reading Folklore Research and Fiction Analysis Literary Game or Video Work on Expo Day Presentation	Paragraph(s) Expo Day Group Work Homework: Read <i>Summerland</i> to page 462, prepare discussion questions	research Open-ended assignments
W	Literary Allusion to Mythology and Folklore	Summerland Discussion Fiction Reading Folklore Research and Fiction Analysis Literary Game or Video Work on Expo Day Presentation	Analytical Paragraph(s) Expo Day Group Work Homework: Read <i>Summerland</i> to end, prepare discussion questions	Self-directed research Open-ended assignments
Th	Literary Allusion to Mythology and Folklore	Summerland Discussion Fiction Reading Folklore Research and Fiction Analysis Literary Game or Video Work on Expo Day Presentation	Analytical Paragraph(s) Expo Day Group Work	Self-directed research Open-ended assignments
F	Expo Day	Expo Day	Expo Day	

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