

**San José State University**  
**English Department**  
**English 215, Myth and Symbolism, Fall 2019**

**Instructor:** Nancy Stork  
**Office Location:** Faculty Offices Building  
**Telephone:** 408 924 4477  
**Email:** Nancy.Stork@sjsu.edu  
**Office Hours:** Tuesday 3:00 -5:00 pm and by appointment  
**Class Days/Time:** Tuesdays, 7:00-9:45 pm  
**Classroom:** BBC 221

### **Course Description**

Comparative study of mythic and symbolic forms in literature, focusing on theory and a variety of texts. With prior permission of graduate advisor may be repeatable once for credit. Prerequisite: Classified standing or instructor consent. Note: This course satisfies graduate-level GWAR in this master's program.

### **Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)**

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

1. Read and analyze Thomas Malory's early modern English prose
2. Understand the modern history of critical approaches to mythic texts
3. Do independent research into texts that arise out of an oral tradition

### **Textbook**

*The Class Fairy Tales*, ed. Maria Tatar, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, Norton Critical Editions 978-0-393-60297-5n.b. Do NOT buy a similarly titled work by the same author called *The Annotated Classic Fairy Tales*

*Malory's Morte Darthur*, Stephen Shepherd, ed., Norton Critical Editions, 0-393-97464-2

### **Requirements and Assignments**

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found in [University Policy S12-3](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf>.

Oral report on a critic or critical school	20%
Bring in a Symbolist Poem	20%
Prose analysis of Thomas Malory	30%
Final Research Paper	30%

## Grading Policy

Oral presentations will be graded on fluency of oral communication as well as intellectual content.

Written work will be assessed for style, clarity, and intellectual content.

Late work can be accepted up to one week late in the event of genuine and compelling emergencies beyond the student's control. Late work will be subject to a full grade penalty, i.e. A to B, B to C, etc.

## Schedule of Classes

Aug 27	Introduction. Fairy Lovers (text provided)
Sep 3	Little Red Riding Hood, Beauty and the Beast
Sep 10	Snow White, Sleeping Beauty
Sep 17	Tricksters, The Japanese Tale of the Bamboo-Cutter ( <a href="http://etc.usf.edu/lit2go/72/japanese-fairy-tales/4834/the-bamboo-cutter-and-the-moon-child">http://etc.usf.edu/lit2go/72/japanese-fairy-tales/4834/the-bamboo-cutter-and-the-moon-child</a> )
Sep 24	Cinderella, Bluebeard
Oct 1	Malory, How Uther Pendragon... 3-13, Balyn and Balan 40-62
Oct 8	Malory, Sankgreal , 462-488, 496-506, 521-531
Oct 15	Malory, Tale of Sir Launcelot and Quene Gwenyvere, 588-645
Oct 22	Malory, Dethe of Arthur, 646-698
Oct 29	Workshop on your prose analysis (bring draft of your paper)
Nov 5	<u>Malory Prose Analyses DUE</u> . Discussion of your conclusions
Nov 12	<u>Bring a Symbolist poem</u>
Nov 19	Presentations on Final Paper Topics
Nov 26	Presentations
Dec 3	Presentations

Final Papers DUE: In my box, office or by email, Sunday, December 15 by 5:00 pm

## University Policies (Required)

Per University Policy S16-9 (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>), relevant information to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. is available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/> Make sure to review these university policies and resources with students.