

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

<https://uofa.ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies>

**2017-18 MLCS 205 B1: History of Folklore Studies
(Winter Term)**

Instructor: Micah True, PhD

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Personal Website: N/A

Time: MWF 1-1:50

Place: T 1 91

Office Hours: *by appointment*

Course Website: Moodle

Course Prerequisite: consent of department

Course-based Ethics Approval in place regarding all research projects that involve human testing, questionnaires, etc.?

Yes No, not needed, no such projects approved.

Community Service Learning component

Required Optional None

Past or Representative Evaluative Course Material Available

Exam registry – Students' Union

<http://www.su.ualberta.ca/services/infolink/exam/>

See explanations below

Document distributed in class

Other (please specify)

NA

Additional mandatory Instructional fees (approved by Board of Governors)

Yes No

Course Description and Objectives:

This course surveys the history of folklore studies, with particular emphasis on how folklore has been collected, written, transmitted and studied from the 17th century to the present. At the end of this course, successful students will be able to define folklore and identify examples of folklore in a variety of genres and contexts, describe major trends in how folklore has been used and understood, and analyze how specific cultural objects or stories meet, fail to meet, challenge, or stretch conventional scholarly understandings of folklore and its place in cultures worldwide.

Texts:

Required (all texts are freely available online):

Hans Christian Andersen, "The Princess and the Pea," "The Ugly Duckling," and "The Emperor's New Suit"

Madame d'Aulnoy, "The White Cat"

Madame le Prince de Beaumont, "Beauty and the Beast"

Bruno Bettelheim, "The Struggle for Meaning" (Introduction)

Paul Delarue, "The Story of Grandmother"

Robert Dobler, "Ghosts in the Machine: Mourning the MySpace Dead"

Emily Eakin, "Bacteria on the Brain," *The New Yorker*

Brothers Grimm, "Little Red Cap," "Sun, Moon, and Talia," "The Sleeping Beauty in the Wood," "Brier Rose," "Hansel and Gretel," "Little Snow White," "The Blue Light," "The Tinderbox," "Rapunzel," "The Frog King, or Iron Heinrich," "Rumpelstiltskin," and "The Fisherman and his Wife"

Hearne, "Disney Revisited"

Charles Perrault, "Puss in Boots," "Little Red Riding Hood," "Cinderella" and "Blue Beard"

Joseph Jacobs, "Cap O'Rushes," "Molly Whuppie," "Jack and the Beanstalk,"

Rowe, "Feminism and Fairy Tales"

Grade Distribution (see "Explanatory Notes"):

Group activity reports (most Fridays)	5%
First Midterm Exam (Feb. 7)	35%
Second Midterm Exam (March 28)	35%
Final project—due on last day of class	25%

Explanatory Notes on Assignments:

Group Activity Reports: On most Fridays during the semester, students will hand in a report on the activity/discussion planned for that day. These reports will be prepared either before or during class, individually or in small groups, depending on the specific assignment. Their format and content will vary. The professor will give detailed instructions for each report.

Midterm Exams: Each exam will cover the content of the professor's lectures and the assigned readings. A review session will be held prior to each exam.

Final Project: Each student will prepare a final project related to folklore. This will consist of conducting research, writing a short paper (4-5 pages), and presenting the project to the rest of the class during the final week of the semester. More details will be provided by the professor ahead of time.

Required Notes:

“Policy about course outlines can be found in the [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#) of the University Calendar.”

Academic Integrity:

“The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at www.governance.ualberta.ca) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.”

Learning and Working Environment:

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring all students; faculty and staff are able to study and work in an environment that is safe and free from discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. The Department urges anyone who feels that this policy is being violated to:

- Discuss the matter with the person whose behaviour is causing concern; or
- If that discussion is unsatisfactory, or there is concern that direct discussion is inappropriate or threatening, discuss it with the Chair of the Department.

For additional advice or assistance regarding this policy you may contact the [Office of the Student Ombuds](#). Information about the [University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures](#) is described in [UAPPOL](#).

Academic Honesty:

All students should consult the information provided by the [Student Conduct & Accountability Office](#) regarding avoiding cheating and plagiarism in particular and academic dishonesty in general (see the [Academic Integrity Undergraduate Handbook](#) and [Information for Students](#)). If in doubt about what is permitted in this class, ask the instructor.

Students involved in language courses and translation courses should be aware that on-line “translation engines” produce very dubious and unreliable “translations.” **Students in languages courses** should be aware that, while seeking the advice of native or expert speakers is often helpful, **excessive editorial and creative help** in assignments is considered a form of “cheating” that violates the code of student conduct with dire consequences.

An instructor or coordinator who is convinced that a student has handed in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration of fairness to other students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. See the [Academic Discipline Process](#).

Recording of Lectures:

Audio or video recording, digital or otherwise, of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Student or instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

Attendance, Absences, and Missed Grade Components:

Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in any course. In cases of potentially excusable absences due to illness or domestic affliction, notify your instructor by e-mail within two days. Regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult sections [Attendance](#) and [Examinations](#) of the University Calendar. Be aware that unexcused absences will result in partial or total loss of the grade for the “attendance and participation” component(s) of a course, as well as for any assignments that are not handed-in or completed as a result.

In this course, you are allowed three unexcused absences maximum. Each unexcused absence beyond the allotted three will result in a 1 percent penalty on the final course grade.

Policy for Late Assignments:

All work is due **in class** on the day for which it is assigned. After class, work will be accepted with a 5% penalty, with an additional 5%-per-day penalty assessed for each subsequent day of lateness. Students who consult **in advance** with the professor regarding contingencies preventing the timely completion of an assignment may, **at the discretion of the instructor**, be granted an extension.

Student Accessibility Services:

If you have special needs that could affect your performance in this class, please let me know during the first week of the term so that appropriate arrangements can be made. If you are not already registered with [Student Accessibility Services](#), contact their office immediately (1-80 SUB; Email sasrec@ualberta.ca; Email; phone 780-492-3381).

Grading:

Assessment of the individual course components may be in the form of numerical marks or letter grades. The final letter grade will be based on "a combination of absolute achievement and relative performance in a class" (University Calendar, [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#)). The University Grading Procedure mandates that "a student's level of achievement of the goals/outcomes of a course, their grade, and the descriptor of that grade must be aligned"

(<https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/>). The following guidelines have been adopted by the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies:

“MLCS Undergraduate Grading Scale”

Descriptor	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	%
Excellent. A+, A or A- is earned by work which is superior in content and form and demonstrates an exceptional grasp of the subject matter. The grade of A+ designates work that far exceeds course expectations. Grades in the A range are normally achieved by a small number of students.	A+	4.0	97-100
	A	4.0	93-96
	A-	3.7	90-92
Good. B+, B or B- is earned by work that demonstrates a thorough comprehension of the course material and a good command of relevant skills. Grades in the B range are normally achieved by the largest number of students.	B+	3.3	87-89
	B	3.0	83-86
	B-	2.7	80-82
Satisfactory. C+, C or C- is earned by work that demonstrates an adequate grasp of the course material and relevant skills. Grades in the C range designate work that has met the basic requirements of the course.	C+	2.3	77-79
	C	2.0	73-76
	C-	1.7	70-72
Poor/Minimal Pass. D+ or D is earned by work that demonstrates minimal familiarity with the course material. Grades in the D range generally indicate insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.	D+	1.3	65-69
	D	1.0	60-64
Failure.	F	0.0	0-59