

Saint Leo University

IDS 210HM

Once Upon A Time: Readings in Folklore and Culture

Course Description:

This course enables students to explore cultures around the world through the lens of folklore. These stories have helped shape their originating cultures by preserving political ideologies, standards, ethics and belief systems. Students will read a variety of folklore (folktales, fairy tales, legends, myths, etc.) as a means to analyze the cultures from which they originated.

Prerequisite:

ENG 121 – Academic Writing I

Textbook:

Sims, Martha C., and Martine Stephens. *Living Folklore: An Introduction to the Study of People and Their Traditions*. 2nd ed. Logan, UT: Utah State University Press, 2011. Print. ISBN: 978-0-87421-844-2
eBook: 978-0-87421-845-9

Learning Outcomes:

1. Assess the influence of social norms and/or values on social or cultural phenomena *through comparison of how cultural values are reflected in folklore through an analysis of multiple versions of the fairy tale Cinderella (Culture Through Literature Assignment)*. **HM2**
2. Analyze the contribution of diverse social groups to society *through identification of story structure and literary elements found in folklore through an analysis of multiple versions of the fairy tale Cinderella. (Culture Through Literature Assignment)*. **HM1**
3. Examine and critique the characterization of gender roles in folklore through Heroes & Heroines assignment.
4. Select, investigate, and explain the historical context behind nursery rhymes through Nursery Rhyme Rhetoric Assignment.
5. Examine and recognize folklore as a record of human experience through weekly discussion questions.
6. Demonstrate mastery of the content by scoring 74% or higher on all exams.
7. Deliver coherent presentations featuring correct information and evidence *that demonstrate an understanding of the Saint Leo University Core Value Respect in connection with folklore and cultural comparisons using multiple versions of the fairy tale Cinderella (Culture Through Literature Assignment)*. **CC1**

Core Value:

Respect: Animated in the spirit of Jesus Christ, we value all individuals' unique talents, respect their dignity and strive to foster their commitment to excellence in our work. Our community's strength depends on the unity and diversity of our people, on the free exchange of ideas and on learning, living, and working harmoniously.

Evaluation:

Discussion	80 points	20%
Nursery Rhyme Rhetoric	100 points	13%
Heroes & Heroines	100 points	10%
Culture Through Literature	100 points	23%
Midterm Exam	100 points	17%
Final Exam	100 points	17%
	580 points	100%

Grading Scale:

Grade	Score (%)
A	94-100
A-	90-93
B+	87-89
B	84-86
B-	80-83
C+	77-79
C	74-76
C-	70-73
D+	67-69
D	60-66
F	0-59

Discussion L.O. 5

Each module you will be asked to respond to a question connected to your assigned readings and module content. Your initial response should be 100 words in length minimum. Post your initial response to the Discussion Board **no later than Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT** of each respective module. Afterwards, you are to respond to at least two of your peers' responses. Each response to a peer should be 50 words minimum. Post responses to at least two classmates **no later than Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT**. In order to get full credit for each module discussion, you must post an initial response and respond to at least two classmates.

Nursery Rhyme Rhetoric L.O. 4

A long time ago, in more repressed times, people were not always allowed to openly criticize their governments. Doing so could bring them grave harm. As a means of communicating amongst each other, clever rhymes were created and passed around as a way to parody certain public figures or events.

For this assignment you will choose four nursery rhymes to investigate and study. For each nursery rhyme you will need to do the following:

- Provide the text of the nursery rhyme.
- Identify where it originated from and the time period.
- Discuss the historical context(s) or meaning behind each one (there may be more than one).
- Cite all your sources using MLA.
- This assignment should be 2-3 pages in length.

Submit Nursery Rhyme Rhetoric to the Assignment box **no later than Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT of Module 2**. (This Assignment box is linked to Turnitin.)

Heroes and Heroines: Gender Roles in Folklore L.O. 3

This assignment focuses on gender roles characterized in fairy tales, folktales, myths, and legends. Discuss the role gender has played with the characters found in folklore using at least three stories to support your conclusions. First ask yourself how males and females are typically portrayed in folklore. Is this representative of their culture? Using your three story examples, identify the hero/heroine and provide examples or details from the story that demonstrate how their gender is being represented. This assignment should be 1 full page in length using MLA format.

Submit Heroes and Heroines: Gender Roles in Folklore to the Assignment box **no later than Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT of Module 5**. (This Assignment box is linked to Turnitin.)

(UE Key Assignment) Culture through Literature: The Story of Cinderella L.O. 1,2 and 7

One of the best known fairy tales in the world is *Cinderella*. It has appeared in the folklore of many cultures, with over 500 versions alone in Europe. In order to evaluate how cultural values are reflected in literature, you will read and compare two versions of *Cinderella* with the American "Disney" version. As you read through the different versions, think about what behaviors reveal the character's values, how the

geography and natural resources are worked into the story, as well as the traditional values of the times and societies in which they originated.

There is a list of websites in the Webliography that will assist you with finding different versions of *Cinderella* to compare to the Disney version. Please do **not** choose a fractured fairy tale version or any parodies of *Cinderella*. You are searching for ones that come from different cultures only.

Your grade for this assignment will be based on the following:

- Comparison of two *Cinderella* stories with the Disney version (using instructor-supplied graphic organizer)
- Research on the culture of the countries involved
- Archetypical model comparison relating to:
 - Setting
 - Characters
 - Story details
 - Symbolism
- Bibliography of sources (Works Cited) in MLA format

The final product will be a multimedia presentation synthesizing the information outlined above.

Click [Cinderella Graphic Organizer Template](#) to download the template you must use to complete this project.

Click [Cinderella Graphic Organizer Example](#) and [Sample Presentation](#) to see what is expected of you for this project.

Email two versions of *Cinderella* that will be used for the Culture Through Literature project **no later than Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT of Module 5**.

Submit Culture Through Literature: The Story of Cinderella **Graphic Organizer and Presentation** to the Assignment box **no later than Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT of Module 7**. (This Assignment box is linked to Turnitin.)

Submit the Culture Through Literature Presentation to **Chalk and Wire** **no later than Sunday 11:59 EST/EDT of Module 7**. The Culture Through Literature Presentation Chalk & Wire link is located in the Module 7 folder. Students who do not submit the assignment to Chalk & Wire will receive a zero. This is a key assignment assessment; the results are used to ensure students are meeting University Exploration program goals. Video and PDF instructions can be found on the course home page. PDF instructions are also located in the Start Here folder.

Post Culture Through Literature: The Story of Cinderella Presentation to a Discussion post in the Module 8 Discussion Board **no later than Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT of Module 7**.

Exams L.O. 6

A Midterm Exam will be taken in **Module 4** and a Final Exam in **Module 8**. Both exams will cover the assigned readings and module content, especially those key concepts that are identified at the beginning of each module. Both exams consist of multiple-choice, short-answer, and essay questions. You will have 1 hour 30 minutes for each exam.

Course Schedule:

Module 1 Folklore: What It Is and What It Isn't

Objectives

When you complete this module, you should be able to:

- Define folklore and the common misconceptions associated with it.
- Identify the genres of folklore.
- Explain how folklore is a complex, interconnected act of communication.
- Summarize the history of folklore study.
- Identify the characteristics of nursery rhymes.

Assignments

Items to be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Post an introduction to the class	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Read Chapter 1	
View Audio Visual Presentation (AVP)	
Post an initial response to the discussion question	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT

Module 2 Groups

Objectives

When you complete this module, you should be able to:

- Describe some of the ways in which folk groups work and the factors that influence group membership.
- Identify initial factors that bring groups together to form folk groups.
- Identify the ways that informal expressive communication works to connect members both within and outside the group.
- Explain how beliefs, present in almost every folk group and across cultures, can be expressed in a multitude of ways.
- Identify legends and their connection to historical events and/or locations.
- Identify tall tales as an American form of folklore.

Assignments

Items to be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Read Chapter 2	
View Audio Visual Presentation (AVP)	
Post an initial response to the discussion question	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit Nursery Rhyme Rhetoric	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT

Module 3

Tradition

Objectives

When you complete this module, you should be able to:

- Describe how tradition is a vital and dynamic feature of the culture of a folk group.
- Explain how people learn and share traditions.
- Formulate a response to the question "Do traditions disappear?"
- Examine how groups invent tradition.
- Identify and analyze the structure of fairy tales.

Assignments

Items to be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Read Chapter 3	
View Audio Visual Presentation (AVP)	
Post an initial response to the discussion question	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT

Module 4

Ritual

Objectives

When you complete this module, you should be able to:

- Define the term ritual.
- Identify low- and high-context rituals.
- Compare and contrast sacred and secular rituals.
- Summarize the three types of rituals.
- Define ballad and identify its characteristics.

Assignments

Items to be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Read Chapter 4	
View Audio Visual Presentation (AVP)	
Post an initial response to the discussion question	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Complete Midterm Exam	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT

Module 5

Performance

Objectives

When you complete this module, you should be able to:

- Identify performances of folklore.
- Name and describe the dimensions of performance.
- Identify ways people respond aesthetically to folklore.
- Examine proverbs and their connection to folklore and culture.
- Identify the characteristics of fables.

Assignments

Items to be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Read Chapter 5	
View Audio Visual Presentation (AVP)	

Post an initial response to the discussion question	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Email two versions of <i>Cinderella</i> that will be used for the Culture Through Literature project to the instructor	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit Heroes and Heroines	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT

Module 6 Approaches to Interpreting Folklore

Objectives

When you complete this module, you should be able to:

- Identify approaches to interpreting folklore.
- Analyze the pros and cons of each approach to interpreting folklore.
- Identify the characteristics of myths.
- Identify the characteristics of pourquoi tales.

Assignments

Items to be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Read Chapter 6	
View Audio Visual Presentation (AVP)	
Post an initial response to the discussion question	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT

Module 7 Fieldwork and Ethnography

Objectives

When you complete this module, you should be able to:

- Examine the process in which folklorists conduct ethnographic research.
- Identify and describe the two levels of fieldwork experience.
- Describe some of the ethical concerns involved with the fieldwork process.
- Explain the importance of reciprocal ethnography.

Assignments

Items to be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Read Chapter 7	
View Audio Visual Presentation (AVP)	
Post an initial response to the discussion question	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit Culture Through Literature: The Story of Cinderella Graphic Organizer and Presentation	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Posted Culture Through Literature: The Story of Cinderella Presentation to the Module 8 Discussion Board	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT

Module 8 Folklore Projects

Objectives

When you complete this module, you should be able to:

- Identify different research methods used by the researcher-authors.
- Summarize the role of consultants in the field.
- Summarize the interpretations of the researcher-authors and their projects.

Assignments

Items to be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
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Read Chapter 8	
View Audio Visual Presentation (AVP)	
Post substantive Presentation review responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Complete Final Exam	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT