

## **M.A./Ph.D. in Mythological Studies**

### **Program Goals and Student Learning Outcomes**

#### Mythology and Religious Traditions

1. Interpret the primary myths and rituals of a variety of religious and cultural traditions.

#### Myth and Literature

2. Interpret the archetypal, symbolic, and mimetic aspects of literature.

#### Depth Psychology and Culture

3. Critically apply the hermeneutics of depth psychology.
4. Interpret the mythic themes and dynamics that are present in contemporary events and popular culture.

#### Research and Scholarly Writing

5. Critically evaluate and utilize scholarly approaches.
6. Critically evaluate cultural assumptions, especially those pertaining to diversity.

**Time to Completion** is a measure that is monitored by the Department of Education (DOE) to ensure that students are completing the requirements of the degree in a reasonable time frame. The analysis and summary are updated annually.

[MA/PhD Completion Rates 2015-2016](#)

## Capstones with Transition Points

Capstone evaluations and any gateway transition points provide key evaluations throughout the program. Here students demonstrate individual achievement of the learning outcomes.

1. Written Comprehensive Exam, completed at the end of the second year of coursework. Passing is required to continue on to the third year.
2. Concept Paper, completed during the Spring Quarter of the third year of coursework. Approval is required to continue on to dissertation writing.
3. Dissertation Proposal Approval, completed by each dissertation committee member when the proposal is approved.
4. Dissertation Final Approval, completed by each dissertation committee member when the complete dissertation is approved.

Faculty Council members evaluate the effectiveness of the program through Capstone Review Reports that aggregate individual scores into an annual summary. Planning that may include curriculum or teaching adjustments is then developed from any areas that indicate the need for more attention.

## Mythological Studies

### Overall Retention

As of 11/10/2017

		Entering (Matriculation) Year																
		2010-2011		2011-2012		2012-2013		2013-2014		2014-2015		2015-2016		2016-2017		Total		
		Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	
Mythological Studies	Enrollment	40		33		42		27		24		25		23		214		
	Attrition	<b>Total Attrition</b>	21	52.5	12	36.4	20	47.6	9	33.3	5	20.8	4	16.0	2	8.7	73	34.1
	Retention	Graduated	14	35.0	8	24.2	3	7.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	25	11.7
		Still In Program	5	12.5	13	39.4	19	45.2	18	66.7	19	79.2	21	84.0	21	91.3	116	54.2
	<b>Total Retention</b>	19	47.5	21	63.6	22	52.4	18	66.7	19	79.2	21	84.0	21	91.3	141	65.9	

## Myth Program Comprehensive Exam Results 2017

Students enrolled in the MA/PhD Mythological Studies Program take a Comprehensive Exam during the second year of matriculation. The exam is one of the Program's capstone projects. Students must attain a minimum score of 70 out of 100 possible on each of the three exam questions to receive the MA degree. Continuation into the third year of coursework is contingent upon a passing score of 80 on all three exam essays.

The exam questions cover the following topics:

- n Question 1: Mythology and Religious Tradition
- n Question 2: Myth and Literature
- n Question 3: Depth Psychology and Culture

Twenty-two second-year students took the comprehensive exam in 2017. All 22 achieved a score sufficient to continue toward a Ph.D. on the first taking of the exam. The individual question scores were generally high. All 66 question scores (22 students x 3 exam questions) exceeded the minimum Ph.D.-pass score of 80.

Table 1 displays the 2017 examination total score averages along with the data from 2010 through 2016.

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Question 1	89%	92%	92%	90%	93%	91%	95%	93%
Question 2	89%	90%	91%	91%	92%	90%	92%	92%
Question 3	84%	89%	86%	88%	91%	85%	95%	94%

**Table 1: Comprehensive Exam Question Scores Averages 2010-2017**

The results of the 2017 exam are comparable to the scores from the 5 previous years. In 2017 the average scores for all three questions were well above 90% (of the maximum possible score).

Table 2 displays the 2016 examination scores by question and grading rubric category. The rubric categories are: overall organization, clarity of writing, knowledge of material, depth of conceptualization, and evidence of critical thinking and/or creative thinking.

	<b>overall organization</b>	<b>clarity of writing</b>	<b>knowledge of material</b>	<b>depth of conceptualization</b>	<b>evidence of critical thinking and/or creative thinking</b>
<b>Q1 mythology and religious tradition</b>	93%	94%	94%	92%	92%
<b>Q2 myth and literature</b>	93%	92%	92%	90%	91%
<b>Q3 depth psychology and culture</b>	93%	94%	94%	93%	93%

**Table 2: 2017 Comprehensive Exam Question Scores Averages by Grading Rubric Criteria**

Student performance was consistent across the grading rubrics categories with the score averages ranging between 90% and 94% (of the maximum possible score). The high, narrow range of scores indicates that students have clearly mastered all the skills necessary to pass the examination.

Updated by Institutional Learning, 2017 11 10