

## Myth, Mythology, & Mythography Research and Project Planning Workshop

As the guidelines state, the project for this class must engage the subject matter of this course in some creative way related to a student's program. The goals of the project are twofold. The first is to explore a myth, mythic system, archetype, or other appropriate topic and document that exploration with an annotated bibliography and a process essay. It must also result in a tangible product that reflects research and creativity, and makes use of the various skills students develop at the Art Institute.

The "tangible product" can take many forms, and part of the challenge presented by this assignment is for students to decide what it will look like: a video, an ad campaign, a poster or other graphic piece, costume or room design, an artist's book, a short story, a comic book, a sculpture—just to suggest a few possibilities.

In order to produce an appropriate and acceptable result, students must begin their projects with a basic concept, followed by sufficient research to launch the effort. This initial phase must culminate in a project proposal and a bibliography that includes enough sources to get you started.

The next step is to begin working in earnest—conducting more research, brainstorming ideas, making sketches, storyboards, mockups, etc. During this phase you should take notes on your process so that you can describe it in the essay that accompanies the completed project. Take notes on your sources as well, because you will be required to annotate your final bibliography with a short paragraph on how each source helped you develop your end result. Remember that groups must present *individual* process essays, but may submit a single annotated bibliography.

### Week 4 Research and Project Development Workshop

Discuss your project with the instructor, and complete the **Initial Research Worksheet** before leaving class.

Group projects will require a **list of members and tasks**, signed by each participant, due by the end of class.

### Week 5 Proposal and preliminary bibliography due

**Pocket folders** must contain the following:

- A 1.5 to 2 page **essay** describing the planned project, double spaced, one-inch margins, with a cover sheet that includes your name, the name and number/section of the course, the date, and a descriptive title
- A **preliminary bibliography** (use this as the title) of a *minimum* of five sources from a variety of media: print (books, articles from magazines or journals shelved in the library, articles located using a database, etc.), digital (internet articles, CD or DVD ROMs), or video (DVD or VHS). Images must be properly documented, individually, and included on a thumbnail page. All collected images count as one source.
- *You need not annotate your bibliography at this point.* Nor should you stop looking for appropriate resources, since research is an ongoing process and you will probably need to locate additional materials as you progress.
- Feel free to include copies of materials you would like me to help you assess.

### Week 9 Project Completion Workshop and Writing Clinic

This class session will be devoted to putting the final touches on projects. Bring what you have to class for discussion and advice, and have a preliminary draft of your process essay on hand for critique.

### Week 10 Project, Process Essay, and Annotated Bibliography due

All project components are due; students will present their projects informally to the class.