## I. ASCRC General Education Form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>IX</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dept/Program</td>
<td>MCLL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course #</td>
<td>MCLG 231 (also LS 221 and GERM 362)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course Title</td>
<td>Germanic Mythology and Culture</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prerequisite</td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td>Credits</td>
<td>3</td>
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## II. Endorsement/Approvals

Complete the form and obtain signatures before submitting to Faculty Senate Office

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Please type / print name</th>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instructor</td>
<td>Robert Acker</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Chair</td>
<td>Robert Acker</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dean</td>
<td>Gerald Fetz</td>
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## III. Description and purpose of the course:

General Education courses must be introductory and foundational. They must emphasize breadth, context, and connectedness; and relate course content to students’ future lives: See Preamble:

[http://www.umt.edu/facultysenate/gened/GEPreamble_final.htm](http://www.umt.edu/facultysenate/gened/GEPreamble_final.htm)

This course introduces students to the world of the Germanic peoples. It examines the origin and spread of this linguistic group, their religious beliefs and cultic practices, contemporary customs and traditions derived from them, their social structures, and selected literary texts that reflect their ancient culture and religion. It stresses the culture, traditions and legacy of the Germanic peoples in Europe.

## IV. Criteria:

Briefly explain how this course meets the criteria for the group. See:

[http://www.umt.edu/facultysenate/ASCRCx/Adocuments/GE_Criteria5-1-08.htm](http://www.umt.edu/facultysenate/ASCRCx/Adocuments/GE_Criteria5-1-08.htm)

This course examines the development and consequences of ancient Germanic beliefs, ideas, and practices, it evaluates selected texts within this cultural and historical context, and it traces Germanic ideas and institutions from their early oral traditions to their later written codification and finally to their contemporary ramifications.

## V. Student Learning Goals:

Briefly explain how this course will meet the applicable learning goals. See:

[http://www.umt.edu/facultysenate/ASCRCx/Adocuments/GE_Criteria5-1-08.htm](http://www.umt.edu/facultysenate/ASCRCx/Adocuments/GE_Criteria5-1-08.htm)
Upon completion of the course students will be able to understand the historical importance of the ideas, institutions, and concepts developed by the Germanic peoples and the contemporary relevance and consequences thereof; students will also be able to evaluate selected texts in relationship to the ancient Germanic past; finally students will be able to appreciate the distinctive significance of Germanic culture within the European legacy.

### VII. Syllabus:

The syllabus should clearly describe how the above criteria are satisfied. For assistance on syllabus preparation see: [http://teaching.berkeley.edu/bgd/syllabus.html](http://teaching.berkeley.edu/bgd/syllabus.html)

LS 221/MCLG 231/GERM 362  
Germanic Mythology and Culture  
Fall, 2008

#### I. Objectives and Goals:

We will attempt to gain a systematic overview of the Germanic mythological system (major deities, cosmology, cultic practices, archeological evidence, etc.), to gain an overview of the societal and cultural structures, and to explore literary texts which reflect both the mythology and the culture. Lectures, which will include films, slides and realia, will alternate with discussions of the texts. Upon completion of the course students will be able to understand the importance of the ideas, institutions, and concepts developed by the Germanic peoples and the contemporary relevance and consequences thereof and in addition will be able to evaluate selected texts in relationship to the ancient Germanic past.

#### II. Expectations:

Students are expected to attend class regularly, to do the assigned readings, to take notes, to study their notes and the texts conscientiously, and attempt to gain an introductory knowledge of Germanic mythology and culture. All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review on-
Students requesting disability accommodations are asked to provide a letter from DSS with sufficient advance notice.

III. Assessment: There will be a midterm and a final. The midterm will be based on the first half of the course, the final on the second half. Questions will be mainly objective, with a few mini-essays. No excuses will be accepted for missing either of the exams. Those taking the course under Germ 362 must write in addition a 7 page research paper in German on a topic chosen in consultation with the instructor.

IV. Texts (in order of use): Davidson, *Gods and Myths of Northern Europe*  
Terry, *Poems of the Elder Edda*  
*Hrafnkel’s Saga and Other Stories*  
*The Nibelungenlied*

V. Course Outline:

Aug 26  Intro to Course; Origin of the Germans: an Historical Overview

Sept. 2 – 30  Germanic Mythology: Pantheon, Cosmology, Religious Practices

Oct. 7  Midterm / Germanic Society


Dec. 9  Final Exam

*Please note: As an instructor of a general education course, you will be expected to provide sample assessment items and corresponding responses to the Assessment Advisory Committee.*