

## Mythology Supplemental Standards Public Review Summary

### **Total Responses:** 25

Shared via English language arts and curriculum director email lists, LEA leadership email lists, USBE social media channels, and posted on USBE website.

### **Feedback:**

No change suggested, like as is: 16  
Specific feedback submitted: 9

### **Participant Role:**

Educators: 25

### **Feedback Responses:**

- First, I appreciate the existence of mythology standards! Teaching in a world where intolerance of pluralistic worldviews is tricky, and I believe having baselines is integral to building trust between parents and teachers. I have taught mythology units in grades 4 and 7, and have seen the benefit of Standard 1.2: (Evaluate the significance of recurring themes, motifs, structures, and patterns in myths, discussing their relevance and influence on literature, art, and societal values within their respective cultures.) I frequently run into students in my community--or have "repeat" students, since my district is very small--who are able to identify recurring themes from mythology and their allusions in modern works, and these connections enable students to better understand and connect to text. Thank you to all who have been involved in the formation, editing, and production of these standards!
- The introduction is ok, but I suggest that students in this course also need to develop a deep respect for the cultures from which these myths come, as well as understand that for many people, the stories that will be examined are, in fact, part of current religions and must be treated as such. Nothing in this course should ever suggest or encourage students to be dismissive of

the stories, or think they are merely quaint or strange tales. There are always lessons to be learned about the values of each culture and even lessons to apply to our own lives today. As for the standards, I think they are adequate, but it will be up to a great teacher to bring them to life.

- These are great, but I would like to see a bit more emphasis on the need to examine myths from varied and diverse cultural representations the way the ELA standards do. With only a brief mention, this important aspect of mythology may be lost or only done on a surface level. It might also be nice to include some culturally responsive language as far as the representation of cultures so that the treatment is done with care. I know that can be hard to do right now.
- Strand 1 is missing the main point of mythology, which is to describe and derive meaning of the relationship(s) of the "Divine," the "Human," and the "Physical" in regards to the "Cosmos," and use storytelling as a vehicle to moralize themes such as force, violence, hubris, etc., and philosophize agency, fate, the knowable vs unknowable, etc. Standard 3.2 - Remember that culture ALSO shaped mythology--consider the Aeneid.
- These standards are naturally covered in a decent mythology course. I have no concerns with them except -- how are they integrated with 12th grade language arts standards? I think clarification of expectations regarding simplifying the other standards or which standards these replace/address would be helpful.
- I wonder if specific examples of cultures could be added to the standards. When people hear mythology, many automatically think Greek mythology. The standards mention comparing cultures and origins, and I think it would be helpful to add (ex: Greek, Roman, Native American, African, etc.) in the standards. Or some iteration of the information in parenthesis.
- I would like to see something specific in the standards, maybe where the values and cultures of society are discussed, specifically related to invisible bias and the ways in which mythology and cultural narratives can and have perpetuated prejudice or oppression in various societies, and how narratives can be shaped and reformed to relieve the oppressed.

- This should also be offered as a history credit as well. To contextualize the historical implications of these deities is as important as the english standards. This is as much of a social study than it is an english credit.
- I taught this years ago, and the most difficult thing by far was creating my own curriculum. I feel like this would've helped guide me to ask more of the students than to just be able to identify the main "players".
- I especially appreciate the attention to the diversity of human cultures. I think that our mythology courses will benefit greatly from further understanding our differences as human beings.
- This is an interesting course which could fulfill English credit. It also invites students to be exposed to another culture, which is valuable, particularly in the present world.
- Surprisingly, this is very pro-mythology. I appreciate that you left out "religion" and didn't make it all about the hero's journey.
- Can you send me a copy of the standards? I think this will be awesome and help teachers navigate the subject of Mythology.
- No feedback. I like that these standards are general enough that I am not limited in what specifically I can teach.
- These standards should also include a standard based around comparisons of similar myths/stories to each other.
- Would this be a possible replacement for all grades for English or just for a high school requirement?
- I read through all of the standards. I thought they were great.
- I like the standards as they are currently written.
- These standards are accurate educationally.
- I appreciate these planned standards.
- These look great!