



MYTH, MEDIA AND THE JOY OF NARRATION. RECEPTIONS OF OLD NORSE MYTHOLOGY SINCE THE MIDDLE AGES

(Thomas Mohnike, University of Strasbourg; Anja Ute Blode, University of Cologne)

Given the increased media presence of elements of Norse mythology and the Norse Middle Ages, **two** courses will provide an introduction to current issues in Old Norse mythology. The course topic is developed over two courses. **Participation in only one course is possible.**

Thematically, the **first** course will focus on an examination of the most important sources, texts, and myths from the reception of the Norse Middle Ages.

Building on this, the **second** course deals with the reception of Norse mythology from the 18th century onwards. A wide variety of sources from classical literature and art history, from the political history of the 1930s/40s, and more recent popular culture will be explored.

In order to encompass the concept of myth in the diverse sources on the Norse Middle Ages, interdisciplinary theoretical and methodological concepts will be drawn upon, such as aspects of memory studies, literary studies, visual culture, media theory, and reception studies.

Learning Objectives:

- 1) Students will have become familiar with the major sources on Norse mythology (**Course 1**) and aspects of modern reception (**Course 2**).
- 2) Students have become familiar with the most important interdisciplinary theories on the concept of myth and the reception of Norse mythology and can evaluate and apply them.
- 3) Students will be able to apply the knowledge they have acquired to current adaptations of aspects of Norse mythology, e.g. in TV series or computer games, and critically examine them.

Format:

Both course combines weekly instructions via videoconference, online learning and a group presentation. The **first** course is rounded off by a two-day seminar in Strasbourg in December and the **second** course by a two-day seminar in Cologne in May.

Students are expected to prepare for the seminars by watching instructional videos, reading relevant assigned literature and participating in a group forum discussion.

Participation in only one course is possible.

Course Dates Course 1:

October 14, 2021 - December 18, 2021

Final Symposium 1: 16 - 18 December 2021 in Strasbourg

Sessions: Thursday 10-12h

Course Language: English

Registration: Until 14/09/2021 via hello-jolnes@uni-koeln.de

Participants with special needs are welcome to contact us before the course starts.

The second part of the course will take place in:

Spring/Summer term 2022

Making Myth Visible. Aesthetics of Norse Mythology between National Romanticism and Contemporary Receptions

Course Dates:

March 21, 2022 - May 06, 2022

Final Symposium 2: 04 - 06 May 2022 in Cologne