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The World Of Myth: An Anthology



Synopsis

Since its publication in 1991, *The World of Myth* has provided thousands of students with a fascinating, wide-ranging introduction to world mythology. Building on the bestselling tradition of the first edition, the long-awaited second edition offers a uniquely comprehensive collection of myths from numerous cultures around the globe. Featuring a thematic organization, it helps students understand world mythology as a metaphor for humanity's search for meaning in a complex world. Author David Leeming presents a sweeping variety of myths whose origins range from ancient Egypt and Greece to the Polynesian islands and modern science. Students will be captivated by stories of great floods from the ancient Babylonians, Hebrews, Chinese, and Mayans; tales of apocalypse from India, the Norse, Christianity, and modern science; myths of the mother goddess from Native American Hopi culture and James Lovelock's Gaia; and much more. One of the most wide-ranging anthologies available, this volume includes myths from African, Australian Aboriginal, Aztec, Celtic, Chinese, Greek, Hittite, Japanese, Muslim, and Persian cultures.

Book Information

Paperback: 352 pages

Publisher: Oxford University Press; 2 edition (November 29, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0199316368

ISBN-13: 978-0199316366

Product Dimensions: 9.2 x 0.5 x 6.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 9 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #10,954 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #1 in [Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Religious Studies > Religious History](#) #10 in [Books > History > World > Religious > General](#) #14 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Religious Studies > History](#)

Customer Reviews

"Indispensable and by far the most accessible anthology available."--Susan A. St. Peters, Riverside City College
"The World of Myth is incredibly informative, covering a large range of cultures and regions. It could easily stand alone as the main text in an Intro to Mythology course. It is comprehensive, culturally inclusive, and well researched."--Maggie DiVito, Columbus College of Art and Design
"This text is the most accessible survey of world myth on the market today. All cultures are represented. As far as coverage goes, it offers all that teachers need in order to give students a

concise but representative perspective on the stories that we tell about ourselves."--Edward
Karshner, Roberts Morris University

David Leeming is Professor Emeritus of English at the University of Connecticut in Storrs. He is the author of many books on mythology, including *The Oxford Companion to World Mythology* (2005).

This is an update of the first edition, and it is quite different. Leeming has added a bunch of material to the first, and dropped some things. At first I was excited to get it, but it did not live up to my hopes. The first drawback is that the new stuff is often just analysis rather than the stories themselves. This seems pointless: why give analysis of something the reader isn't familiar with? Also, Leeming often just quotes himself from his other books, so the new material seems tired and sketchy. The other drawback is that he has dropped some of the best things, like *Hiawatha* and some others. This is a shame, for they perfectly illustrated his whole archetype motif. I would recommend getting the first edition. Plus, it's lots cheaper, and you can buy them even cheaper used.

came in on time and a good read. I needed this book for my culture and mythology class in Uni. The bookstore ran out of the books, so I ordered from here.

Great item, fast shipping. Thanks!

great condition

Got me through my mythology class and wasn't that painful.

Great book.

It was a good book!

It's a text book

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