





# Women and Gender Studies (WGST) 333

## Goddess Mythology, Women's Spirituality and Ecofeminism

(Revision 3)

**Status:** Replaced with new revision, see the [course listing](#)  for the current revision 

**Delivery mode:** Individualized study online 

**Credits:** 3

**Areas of study:** Arts or Humanities

**Prerequisites:** None

**Precluded:** WMST 333. (WGST 333 cannot be taken for credit if credit has already been obtained for WMST 333.)

**Challenge:** WGST 333 has a challenge for credit option.

**Faculty:** [Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences](#) 

## Overview

WGST 333 examines the evolution, fragmentation, and re-creation of spiritual traditions, myths, and stories associated with Goddess. The course explores the symbolic significance of female divinity and the impact of its loss on all aspects of Western culture. Through the study of ecofeminism, we reconnect with the sacredness and interconnectedness of all life. We reflect on our own journeys, we deepen our understanding of the environment, and we consider strategies for healing women and Earth.

## Outline

- Unit 1: Goddess and Her Mythologies
- Unit 2: Upper Palaeolithic and Neolithic Goddess Mythology
- Unit 3: Sumerian-Babylonian and Egyptian Goddess Mythology
- Unit 4: Goddesses in Greek Mythology
- Unit 5: Goddess Mythology in the Judeo-Christian Tradition
- Unit 6: The Goddess Is Alive! Indigenous and Global Goddess Traditions
- Unit 7: Goddess Mythology and Ecofeminism: All Is Alive
- Unit 8: Ecofeminist Views of Women, Animals, and Nature Healing
- Unit 9: Ecofeminism and Goddess Spirituality: Coming Home

## Learning outcomes

After completing WGST 333, you should be able to:

- Reclaim an ancient and powerful heritage of women's spirituality centred on goddesses.
- Examine the ways spirituality and its symbols have historically empowered or disempowered women
- Explore the link between goddess mythology and the contemporary movement known as ecofeminism

- See women as sacred, beautiful, and powerful.

## Evaluation

To **receive credit** [↗](#) for WGST 333, you must obtain at least **D (50 percent)** [📄](#) on the telephone review and each of the three written assignments. The weighting of the composite grade is as follows:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Weight</b>
Assignment 1 Telephone Review	15%
Assignment 2 Goddess Essay	30%
Assignment 3 Research Proposal for Final Essay on Ecofeminism	20%
Assignment 4 Essay on Ecofeminism	35%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

To learn more about assignments and examinations, please refer to Athabasca University's **online Calendar** [↗](#).

## Materials

Baring, A., & Cashford, J. (1993). *The myth of the goddess: Evolution of an image*. London, UK: Penguin. [📖](#) (Print)

## Other Materials

All other materials are available online.

## Challenge for credit

## Overview

The challenge for credit process allows you to demonstrate that you have acquired a command of the general subject matter, knowledge, intellectual and/or other skills that would normally be found in a university-level course.

Full information about [challenge for credit](#) can be found in the Undergraduate Calendar.

## Evaluation

The Challenge for Credit consists of 10 short essay responses.

To **receive credit**, you must complete all 10 essays and achieve a grade of **D (50 percent)** or higher. Credit will be awarded as either a pass or a fail.

 **Challenge for credit course registration form**

## Important links

- > [Academic advising](#)
- > [Program planning](#)
- > [Request assistance](#)
- > [Support services](#)

Athabasca University reserves the right to amend course outlines occasionally and without notice. Courses offered by other delivery methods may vary from their individualized study counterparts.

*Opened in Revision 3, November 19, 2018*

*Updated May 22, 2024*

View [previous revision](#)