

## Slavic and Celtic Folklore, Spring 2018

### Assignment #3: Final Project (draft due May 18, final due May 25)

This is your final assignment for spring quarter: a chance to do independent research and analysis on a theme of your choice. Your job, for this assignment, is to write a five-to-seven-page essay focusing on one of the three choices, below. You will take one element of this essay and turn it into a poster for Week 10.

1. Take one of the Slavic or Celtic folktales on our website, and analyze three different versions of the same folktale according to Propp's model (discussed in lecture on 5/7/18). Note the similarities and differences (being specific about which motifs are present or absent), and analyze the story according to a theme of your choosing. If you can't remember the Aarne-Thompson classification system from lecture, look it up on Wikipedia (and read all the way through to "Criticisms" and mention of Vladimir Propp). Dig deeply until you understand the system.

2. Choose a location, a specific genre of folklore, and a theme. Go as deeply into that one item as you can; do all the background research on JSTOR and in the Library (beyond Wikipedia!) available to you. Analyze it. For example, Otherworldly threats [theme] in Scottish [place] lullabies [genre]. See also social control [theme] in Welsh [place] proverbs [genre]; agricultural knowledge [theme] in South Slavic [place] weaving patterns [genre]; shapeshifting [theme] in East Slavic [place] folktales [genre]; masculinity [theme] in Irish [place] songs [genre], etc. You have already seen plenty of themes in your previous essays; give them another look but don't use a theme you have used before.

3. Go to one of the major online folklore archives, such as the Irish Folklore Commission Schools' Collection ([duchas.ie](http://duchas.ie)), the American Folklore Society Folklore Collections Database (<http://www.folklorecollections.org>), the Indiana University Folklore Collection (<https://libraries.indiana.edu/indiana-university-folklore-collection/>), the Scottish Digital Folklore Collection (<https://www.pitt.edu/~dash/scotland.html>), and browse. [ Pat? Tania? not sure what to do from here ]

Use examples from program and/or your outside research to support your ideas. See the Resources page of the program website ([sites.evergreen.edu/slavicceltic/](http://sites.evergreen.edu/slavicceltic/)) for a few ideas. The Evergreen library is full of books, and if you use a campus computer you have access to every peer-reviewed, academic article available [go to the Library web page: click on **Research Databases** right there on the front page; choose **JSTOR**. Try typing in "seals" and "folklore" as your first search terms (just to test it out) and see what happens. As you are taking notes, be sure to list your sources, including page numbers. If you quote from a text, use in-text citations (the author's last name and date of publication followed by the page number, as in Dundes 1980:22). Include a bibliography at the end of the paper. You may use either MLA or Chicago Style for the bibliography. Do not make up your own system. The Writing Center has clear information sheets with models of bibliographic entries in both styles which are very easy to follow.

**FORMAT:** Please make sure that your paper is typed, double-spaced, in size 12 font, with your name in the upper right corner of the first page. Make a title for your essay; it will help you to focus your ideas.

**The DRAFT of this paper is due on Friday, May 25, by 5 pm. The FINAL version of this paper is due Friday, June 1st.** Please e-mail it to your seminar leader (Pat's e-mail address is [krafcikp@evergreen.edu](mailto:krafcikp@evergreen.edu), Sean's e-mail address is [williams@evergreen.edu](mailto:williams@evergreen.edu), and Tania's e-mail address is [buzekovt@evergreen.edu](mailto:buzekovt@evergreen.edu)).