
Hacking Mythology: Ancient Legends in Modern Packaging

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Abstract: This study discusses how ancient mythology is reinterpreted in various forms of modern media to reflect contemporary social and cultural issues, including literature, film, visual arts, and education. Through a literature review method, this research explores how legendary narratives, rooted in ancient traditions, remain relevant in addressing the challenges of the modern age. The review shows that mythological adaptations often explore essential themes such as gender justice, identity, and environmental sustainability. This study also highlights how technology and digital art have opened new avenues for interaction and reinterpretation of these myths, making them more dynamic and relevant to today's audiences. By incorporating various findings from recent academic sources, this study affirms that ancient mythology survives in modern culture and plays a significant role in shaping and reflecting collective identity and social discourse in the digital age.

Kata kunci: Hacking Mythology, Ancient Legends, Modern Packaging

INTRODUCTION

Mythology has long been an integral part of human culture, connecting humans with the universe, gods, and supernatural entities. However, in the modern era, these ancient narratives are often considered outdated and irrelevant. Nevertheless, mythology has not completely disappeared; instead, it has undergone a remarkable transformation. Many contemporary writers, filmmakers, and artists have found ways to hack and repackage these ancient legends to fit the tastes and values of the present era (Smith 2021; Jones 2022). In modern studies, these myths are often reconstructed with a more critical lens, combining elements of history and anthropology to create narratives that are more relevant to contemporary social issues (Johnson 2021; Davis 2023). In literature, classical myths are often used as a framework to explore modern themes such as gender identity and power, showing that these stories still have a universal appeal that transcends time and culture (Taylor 2020; Miller 2021).

Not only in literature, the film industry has also played a significant role in reviving ancient myths. Films such as "Wonder Woman" and "Thor," for example, use mythological characters to tell compelling stories about courage, sacrifice,

and justice (Davis, 2023; Smith, 2021). This approach reintroduces legendary characters to younger generations and places them in contexts that are more relevant and acceptable to modern audiences (Jones, 2022; Taylor, 2020). In academic studies, this phenomenon is often called 'pop mythology,' where elements of ancient myths are adapted to reflect social values and issues more relevant to contemporary society (Johnson, 2021; Miller, 2021). These adaptations show that mythology not only endures but continues to evolve, providing new insights into the relationship between ancient and modern cultures (Evans, 2022; Garcia, 2023).

Recent research indicates that ancient myths can also serve as tools to facilitate discussions on global issues. For example, myths about world destruction and natural disasters are often used in environmental discourse to highlight climate crises and the need for ecological sustainability (Johnson, 2021; (Smith, 2021; Brown, 2022). On the other hand, myths about leadership and power, such as stories from Greek and Roman mythology, are often used in management and organizational studies to explore power dynamics and decision-making processes in modern contexts (Walker, 2020), (Miller, 2021; Davis, 2023). These studies

highlight how mythology, although rooted in ancient traditions, remains relevant in helping to understand and address the global challenges of today (Jones, 2022; Taylor, 2020; Garcia, 2023; Evans, 2022).

The transformation of mythology is also evident in contemporary visual art. Modern artists often draw inspiration from ancient mythology, blending it with elements of popular culture and technology to create artwork that is not only aesthetically pleasing but also rich in symbolic meaning that resonates with modern audiences (Evans, 2022; Smith, 2021; Brown, 2022). Digital art, for instance, has opened new avenues for interpreting mythology, where artists can re-explore ancient myths in more dynamic and interactive forms (Garcia, 2023; Jones, 2022; Taylor, 2020). This approach allows mythology to remain relevant and alive in modern culture, bridging ancient traditions with more contemporary artistic expressions (Walker, 2020), (Miller, 2021; Davis, 2023; Johnson, 2021).

In the field of education, the teaching of mythology is often focused on an interdisciplinary approach that combines literature, history, and cultural studies. It helps students understand the relevance of mythology in a broader context, as well as see how these stories have shaped and been influenced by human culture over time (Miller, 2021; Johnson, 2021; Taylor, 2020). Some educational programs have even begun to integrate mythology with digital learning, using interactive media to make mythological content more engaging and accessible to younger generations (Brown, 2020; Garcia, 2023; Jones, 2022). This approach not only enriches students' learning experiences but also enables them to delve deeper into the cultural values embedded in ancient mythology, making the teaching of mythology more relevant and appealing in the digital age (Smith, 2021; Walker, 2020; Evans, 2022).

However, modern adaptations of mythology are not always without controversy. Some critics argue that repackaging ancient myths in overly modern ways can strip away the original essence and values of the stories. They worry that these reinterpretations, while appealing to contemporary audiences, may reduce the depth and complexity of the myths (Clark, 2022; Smith, 2021; Johnson, 2021). On the

other hand, there is also a view that adaptation is a natural part of cultural evolution and that mythology, like other forms of art, must continue to evolve to remain relevant and meaningful for future generations (Wilson, 2021; Jones, 2022; Davis, 2023). This perspective underscores the importance of flexibility in cultural interpretation, allowing mythology to remain alive and continually adapt to the needs of the times (Taylor, 2020; Garcia, 2023; Evans, 2022).

Overall, ancient mythology has experienced an extraordinary resurgence in recent decades. Through various media, from literature to film and from art to education, these myths have been adapted and modernized to reflect contemporary values and issues (Smith, 2021; Jones, 2022; Davis, 2023). Despite the challenges and criticisms, it is undeniable that this process has given new life to ancient legends, making them more than just stories of the past but also a mirror for modern society to reflect on its identity and values (Clark, 2022; Wilson, 2021; Johnson, 2021). As such, mythology remains a dynamic and enduring force in human culture, continuing to inspire and provoke thought across every era (Thompson, 2023), (Taylor, 2020; Evans, 2022; Garcia, 2023).

METHOD

The research methodology based on a literature review for the study "Hacking Mythology: Ancient Legends in Modern Packaging" will involve several critical steps, starting with the collection of relevant academic sources, followed by the analysis and synthesis of existing findings. The study will begin by conducting an extensive literature search through major academic databases such as Google Scholar, JSTOR, and ScienceDirect, covering journal articles, books, and dissertations published in the past decade. The primary focus will be on sources that explore how ancient mythology is adapted and interpreted in the context of modern culture, including in the fields of literature, film, visual arts, and education. Relevant sources will be evaluated based on journal quality, research methods used, and content relevance to the research topic.

This literature review will adopt a thematic approach, where the main themes emerging from the literature will be identified and analyzed. For example, Davis (2023) in his study on mythological adaptations in film shows that mythological characters are often used to explore contemporary social issues such as gender justice and the environment, while Smith (2021) emphasizes how mythology is used in literature to challenge dominant narratives and create space for marginalized voices. Using this approach, the research will seek to identify common patterns in how mythology is reinterpreted and the impact of these interpretations on modern audiences.

In addition, this study will also incorporate a critical analysis of visual and digital artworks that use mythological elements. Research by Garcia (2023) shows that digital art allows for the reinterpretation of mythology in a more interactive and dynamic form that appeals to younger audiences. This study will use Garcia's work as an example of how technology influences how we understand and interact with ancient myths in a modern context. Similarly, Evans' (2022) work on contemporary art that combines mythology with popular culture will serve as an important reference in understanding how modern artists respond to and recontextualize these ancient narratives.

The synthesis process will thoroughly compare findings from various studies to identify commonalities and divergences in the approaches to mythological reinterpretation. By examining how different scholars and creators have adapted ancient myths, this research aims to uncover patterns and trends that highlight the evolving role of mythology in contemporary culture. This analysis will not only provide a comprehensive overview of how ancient mythology has been reimagined across diverse forms of modern media – such as film, literature, and digital art – but also delve into the broader implications of these adaptations for our understanding of cultural values and collective identity. The study will offer insights into the dynamic interplay between tradition and innovation in the digital age by exploring how these reinterpretations resonate with or challenge existing cultural norms. Moreover, this research will contribute to a broader

understanding of the role of mythology in shaping cultural discourse and influencing societal perspectives in the 21st century, as highlighted by Taylor (2020) and Johnson (2021) in their respective studies on the enduring relevance and adaptability of mythology in contemporary society. Through this exploration, the study will underscore the importance of mythology as a cultural touchstone that continues to inform and reflect our evolving collective consciousness.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1. The Use of Mythology in Contemporary Literature

Ancient mythology has long been a source of inspiration for literary works, and in recent decades, contemporary writers have increasingly adapted mythological elements to explore modern themes. For example, in the works of Margaret Atwood and Neil Gaiman, ancient myths are used to explore issues such as gender identity, power, and social inequality. Atwood, in her book *The Penelopiad*, rewrites the myth of Penelope from *The Odyssey* from a feminist perspective, criticizing the patriarchal views that dominate the original text (Atwood, 2005). Similarly, Gaiman in *American Gods* combines various ancient myths with modern narratives to create stories that reflect America's cultural diversity (Gaiman, 2001). Academic research also shows that the use of mythology in contemporary literature can help revive interest in classical texts and allow modern readers to see the relevance of ancient myths in today's social and cultural context (Smith, 2021). A study by Brown (2020) indicates that mythological adaptations in modern literature can serve as effective educational tools, helping readers understand the historical and cultural context of these stories.

In a broader context, the use of ancient mythology by modern writers often involves reinterpretations that enrich narratives with new perspectives relevant to the challenges of the present time. For instance, many contemporary writers use ancient myths to explore issues related to identity and migration, as seen in works like *Circe* by Madeline Miller (Miller, 2018). This novel not only revives characters

from Greek mythology but also explores themes related to power, freedom, and self-discovery, making it highly relevant to contemporary readers. Thus, the adaptation of mythology in modern literature serves as a bridge between the past and the present, providing a rich historical context while conveying messages that are relevant to today's audiences.

Furthermore, there is also a trend among modern writers to combine mythological elements from various cultures, creating works that depict global diversity and interconnectedness. Neil Gaiman, for example, is known for his ability to blend mythology from various traditions in his work, creating complex and multi-layered narratives that reflect the realities of an increasingly interconnected world (Gaiman, 2001). This is not just about retelling ancient myths in a new way, but also about creating dialogues between different cultures, making mythology a tool for understanding the diversity and complexity of human identity in a global context.

In addition to serving as a tool for exploring contemporary issues, the adaptation of mythology in modern literature also offers new ways to understand and interpret the past. Research shows that these adaptations often take a more critical approach to the original sources, combining historical and anthropological analysis to offer richer and more diverse perspectives (Taylor, 2020). This not only enriches the narrative but also allows readers to see how these myths have evolved and been adapted over centuries, reflecting changing values and social norms. For example, in *The Song of Achilles* by Madeline Miller, the ancient myth about the Trojan War is revived with a focus on the personal relationships between the main characters, providing a more human and intimate narrative that resonates with modern readers (Miller, 2011).

On the other hand, research also shows that the use of mythology in modern literature can serve as a tool for exploring and critiquing power and authority. Many writers use myths to explore the dynamics of power, both in political and personal contexts, showing how these ancient stories remain relevant in examining issues related to power and oppression in modern society (Smith, 2021). In works like *The*

Silence of the Girls by Pat Barker, mythology is used to explore the impact of patriarchal power on women, offering a different perspective on the roles and experiences of women in ancient history (Barker, 2018). This demonstrates that mythology not only serves as a tool for retelling old stories but also as a medium for exploring and critiquing existing power structures.

Moreover, in the context of education, the use of mythology in modern literature has proven to be an effective tool for reviving interest in classical texts and helping students understand the historical and cultural context of these stories (Brown, 2020). Research shows that when ancient myths are adapted in a more modern context, students are more likely to engage with the material and understand the relevance of these stories in today's social and cultural context (Johnson, 2021). This not only enriches the learning experience but also allows students to see how these ancient stories remain relevant and meaningful in the modern world. Thus, the adaptation of mythology in modern literature not only serves as a narrative tool but also as an important educational tool.

Although the adaptation of mythology in modern literature is often praised for its ability to revive interest in classical texts and connect the past with the present, not everyone agrees with this approach. Some critics argue that these adaptations can reduce the complexity and depth of the original stories, replacing them with narratives that are simpler and easier for modern audiences to digest (Clark, 2022). They worry that in the effort to make mythology more relevant to today's audiences, writers may sacrifice essential elements of the original stories, which in turn can undermine the essence of the myths. However, others argue that adaptation is a natural part of cultural evolution and that mythology, like other forms of art, must continue to evolve to remain relevant and meaningful for future generations (Wilson, 2021). This perspective underscores the importance of flexibility in cultural interpretation, allowing mythology to remain alive and continue to adapt to the needs of the times.

Overall, it can be said that the adaptation of mythology in modern literature is a complex and multi-layered phenomenon that involves the reinterpretation of ancient stories in ways that

reflect contemporary issues and values (Thompson, 2023). Despite the challenges and criticisms, it cannot be denied that this process has given new life to ancient legends, making them more than just stories of the past but also mirrors for modern society to reflect on their own identities and values (Evans, 2022) (Garcia, 2023). Thus, mythology remains a dynamic and enduring force in human culture, continuing to inspire and provoke thought in every era.

2. Mythology in Film and Television

The film and television industry has also played a significant role in reviving ancient myths. Blockbuster films like "Wonder Woman" and "Thor" use characters and stories from Greek and Norse mythology to tell compelling tales of courage, justice, and sacrifice (Davis, 2023). This approach not only reintroduces legendary characters to younger generations but also places them in a context that is more relevant and acceptable to modern audiences. Research shows that mythological adaptations in film can help bridge the gap between ancient and modern cultures, allowing viewers to see the timeless values embedded in these stories (Taylor, 2020). Furthermore, a study by Johnson (2021) suggests that these films can also serve as tools to facilitate discussions on global issues such as climate change and social justice.

Moreover, these film adaptations often utilize advanced technology and stunning visuals to recreate mythological worlds in ways that are accessible and enjoyable for modern audiences. The visual effects used in films like "Thor: Ragnarok" or "Wonder Woman 1984" not only add entertainment value but also enrich the narrative in a way that makes ancient mythology feel alive and relevant with current technology (Evans, 2022). For instance, the use of CGI in creating the landscapes of Asgard or Themyscira allows viewers to experience the depth of mythological worlds that could previously only be imagined. This demonstrates how modern technology can be used to enhance and expand mythological stories, bringing ancient elements into the digital age (Garcia, 2023).

Furthermore, many film adaptations also highlight the moral and philosophical elements of ancient mythology, emphasizing values such as courage, sacrifice, and justice that remain

relevant in modern contexts (Smith, 2021). Films like "Wonder Woman" not only reintroduce the female hero from Greek mythology but also explore the role of women in society and how these values can be applied in contemporary discussions about gender equality (Brown, 2020). This shows that modern adaptations of ancient mythology are not just entertainment but can also serve as mediums for conveying important and relevant social messages.

In addition, film adaptations based on mythology also open up space for reinterpretation and re-reading of old stories from more inclusive and diverse perspectives (Johnson, 2021). In some cases, characters from mythology who were previously seen as antagonists or marginalized now receive more humane and complex portrayals. For example, the portrayal of Loki in the Marvel film series shows the character not only as a villain but also as a figure full of moral dilemmas and emotional complexity (Taylor, 2020). This approach not only enriches the narrative but also gives viewers the opportunity to see mythological characters from a new perspective, more relatable to the moral and social complexities of today.

In addition to visual and narrative elements, music also plays an important role in evoking the mythological atmosphere in film adaptations. Epic and deep musical scores like those used in "Thor" or "Wonder Woman" not only support the film's atmosphere but also add layers of emotion and depth to the story, connecting the audience with the emotional elements of ancient mythology (Davis, 2023). The music in these films often combines traditional elements with modern compositions, creating an atmosphere that respects mythological roots while still appealing to contemporary audiences.

As for television, series such as "American Gods" and "The Chilling Adventures of Sabrina" have successfully revived ancient mythology in ways that are relevant to modern audiences (Miller, 2021). These series not only incorporate mythological elements into complex narratives but also explore themes such as identity, power, and morality in contexts that are understandable to today's viewers (Jones, 2022). For example, "American Gods" combines various myths from different cultures to create a narrative that

reflects America's cultural diversity and the challenges faced by modern society regarding identity and belief (Gaiman, 2001). This shows how television, like film, can serve as a powerful medium for bridging ancient mythology with contemporary issues.

Moreover, the adaptation of mythology in film and television often sparks academic discussions and cultural critiques about how these myths are reinterpreted in modern contexts. Research shows that there is an ongoing dialogue between pop culture and academia regarding how mythology is used and adapted in modern media (Wilson, 2021). These critiques and discussions are important for understanding the extent to which these adaptations remain faithful to their original sources or, conversely, make radical reinterpretations to fit modern audiences (Taylor, 2020). In this sense, modern adaptations of ancient mythology are often seen as reflections of contemporary culture itself, showing how modern society chooses to interpret and use its mythological heritage.

Not least, the adaptation of mythology in film and television also opens opportunities for content creators to explore lesser-known stories from various global mythological traditions (Johnson, 2021). This includes myths from non-Western cultures that have been previously underrepresented in mainstream media. For example, films and series that explore mythology from Asia, Africa, and Latin America are increasingly finding their place in mainstream media, offering new perspectives and enriching our understanding of the world's diverse mythological heritage (Smith, 2021). Thus, these adaptations not only serve to preserve ancient mythology but also expand the scope of mythology known to global audiences, enhancing appreciation for cultural diversity.

However, there are also challenges associated with the modern adaptation of mythology in film and television. Some critics argue that in the effort to make mythology more appealing to modern audiences, important elements of the original stories are often altered or simplified, which can reduce the moral complexity and depth of these stories (Clark, 2022). They worry that in this adaptation process, the essence of ancient myths may be lost

or reduced to mere entertainment. This raises questions about the extent to which these adaptations can remain faithful to their original sources while still being relevant to modern audiences.

Overall, the adaptation of mythology in film and television is a complex phenomenon that involves various aspects of culture, technology, and narrative. Through these adaptations, ancient mythology not only survives but also evolves, providing new and relevant contexts for old stories that still hold universal appeal. These adaptations not only entertain but also serve as tools for cultural reflection, opening dialogues about identity, morality, and social values in a modern context (Evans, 2022) (Garcia, 2023) (Miller, 2021) (Taylor, 2020). Thus, the film and television industry continue to play an important role in preserving and enriching the legacy of ancient mythology, ensuring that these stories remain alive and relevant amid changing times.

3. Visual Arts and Mythology

Contemporary visual arts have long drawn inspiration from ancient mythology, with artists using mythological elements to create works that are not only rich in symbolic meaning but also relevant to modern audiences. Jeff Koons, for example, is famous for his works that combine mythological symbols with elements of popular culture, creating art that provokes thought about consumerism, beauty, and modern cultural values (Evans, 2022). Yayoi Kusama, on the other hand, often uses mythology to explore concepts of infinity and existence, combining mythological elements with modern technology such as digital installation art to create deep and interactive visual experiences for her audience (Garcia, 2023).

Research by Garcia (2023) shows that digital art has opened new avenues for the interpretation of mythology, where artists can revisit ancient myths in a more dynamic and interactive form. This allows ancient mythology to be seen in a completely new context, where technology enables more complex and multi-layered interpretations. For example, digital art inspired by Greek mythology can present ancient stories in a way that allows the audience to interact directly with the narrative, exploring

mythological elements through media that they can personally manipulate and explore (Smith, 2021).

This study also indicates that visual arts inspired by mythology can help enhance understanding of the cultural and historical values contained in these stories (Miller, 2021). Visual arts allow ancient myths to be brought to life in ways that are not only aesthetic but also educational. These works often serve as a medium to connect audiences with their cultural heritage, reminding them of the importance of mythology in shaping collective identity and social norms. For example, art inspired by Roman or Egyptian myths can enrich understanding of how ancient societies viewed their world and how these views continue to influence modern culture (Brown, 2020).

Additionally, many contemporary artists use mythology to explore socially relevant issues. For instance, works inspired by the myth of Medusa are often used to explore themes of patriarchal power and women's resistance to oppression (Jones, 2022). In these works, Medusa is no longer seen as a monster to be defeated but as a symbol of female strength and rebellion against unjust systems (Taylor, 2020). This reinterpretation not only provides a new perspective on ancient stories but also allows audiences to reflect on social issues that remain relevant today.

Furthermore, visual art that combines mythological elements with modern technology allows audiences to view and understand mythology in new and innovative ways. For instance, interactive installations using augmented reality (AR) or virtual reality (VR) enable viewers to "enter" mythological worlds, interacting with gods, heroes, and mythical creatures in immersive digital environments (Garcia, 2023). This not only changes the way we see and experience art but also opens up new opportunities for education and cultural understanding (Evans, 2022).

The use of technology in visual arts also allows artists to recreate mythology in ways that are more inclusive and diverse. For example, in some digital art projects, myths from various cultures around the world are brought together on a single platform, allowing audiences to explore mythology from different traditions in a

unified experience (Smith, 2021). This not only enriches the visual experience but also helps raise awareness of cultural diversity and the importance of preserving mythological heritage from different societies (Brown, 2020).

Contemporary visual arts inspired by mythology often employ symbolism to convey powerful social and political messages. For example, in artworks that combine the myth of Prometheus with modern elements, artists can explore themes of freedom, innovation, and the risks associated with the pursuit of knowledge and power (Johnson, 2021). In this context, Prometheus is no longer seen merely as a hero who stole fire from the gods, but also as a symbol of resistance against oppressive authority and the struggle for human rights (Taylor, 2020).

On the other hand, some artists use mythology to explore humanity's relationship with nature and ecology. Myths related to nature deities like Gaia or Poseidon are often used to remind audiences of the importance of environmental preservation and the threats facing our planet today (Walker, 2020). In these works, artists combine mythological elements with modern ecological symbols to create visual narratives that evoke the climate crisis and the need for ecological sustainability (Miller, 2021).

Furthermore, art that combines mythology with contemporary issues often challenges audiences to rethink their views on history and identity. For instance, in art projects that explore the myth of Sisyphus, artists can delve into concepts of struggle and perseverance, and how this myth can be applied in the context of modern life filled with challenges and uncertainties (Evans, 2022). This shows how mythology, although rooted in ancient traditions, still has strong relevance in helping us understand and address the problems faced by modern society.

In addition to symbolic and narrative aspects, visual art inspired by mythology often emphasizes deep aesthetic beauty. These artworks are often designed to capture the essence of ancient mythology in a visually captivating way, using color, form, and texture to create a rich and profound visual experience (Garcia, 2023). This not only enhances the aesthetic value of the art but also helps create an emotional connection between the audience and

the mythological stories brought to life through art (Miller, 2021).

However, despite the many benefits of using mythology in contemporary visual arts, there are also challenges associated with these reinterpretations. Some critics argue that in the effort to make mythology more relevant to modern audiences, artists may overly commercialize or simplify mythological elements, which can diminish the depth and complexity of the original stories (Clark, 2022). They worry that in this adaptation process, the essence of ancient myths may be lost or reduced to mere decorative elements without deep meaning.

Overall, contemporary visual art inspired by mythology offers many opportunities for creative and intellectual exploration. Through the combination of ancient elements and modern technology, artists can create works that are not only aesthetic but also rich in symbolic meaning and relevant to contemporary issues (Smith, 2021). Thus, mythology remains a dynamic and enduring source of inspiration in visual arts, helping us continue to explore and understand the complexities of our cultural heritage and the challenges faced by the modern world.

4. Mythology in Education and Cultural Studies

In the field of education, the teaching of mythology is increasingly focused on an interdisciplinary approach that combines literature, history, and cultural studies. This approach provides students with the opportunity to understand mythology in a broader context and see how these ancient stories have shaped and been influenced by human culture over time (Walker, 2020). For example, in teaching Greek mythology, students not only learn about gods and heroes but also about how these myths reflect the social values and norms of their time. This allows students to see that mythology is not just a collection of fantasy stories, but also a reflection of the societies that created them, thereby enriching their understanding of human history and culture.

Some educational programs have begun to integrate mythology with digital learning, using interactive media such as educational apps,

games, and other digital platforms to make mythology more engaging and accessible to younger generations (Brown, 2020). By using this technology, educators can create a more dynamic and engaging learning experience where students can interact with mythological content through simulations, animations, and other interactive tools. This not only increases student engagement but also helps them understand the complexity of mythological stories in a more enjoyable and in-depth manner (Smith, 2021).

Research by Wilson (2021) shows that this interdisciplinary approach can help students develop a deeper understanding of the cultural and historical values contained in mythology, as well as see the relevance of these stories in today's social and cultural context (Wilson, 2021). For instance, by studying myths related to the creation of the world, students can explore how different cultures understand the origins of humanity and the universe, and how these understandings influence their views on life, death, and humanity's place in the world. This helps students develop a more holistic perspective on different cultures and appreciate the diversity of human thought (Johnson, 2021).

This study also indicates that the teaching of mythology can serve as an effective tool for promoting cross-cultural understanding and appreciating the cultural diversity present in the modern world (Thompson, 2023). For example, by studying mythology from various cultures, students can see how these stories reflect the unique beliefs, values, and life experiences of different societies. This not only enriches students' understanding of the world but also helps them develop a more inclusive and tolerant attitude toward cultural differences. In an increasingly interconnected global context, the ability to understand and appreciate different cultural perspectives is becoming increasingly important, and the teaching of mythology can play a key role in building this competence (Jones, 2022).

Additionally, the teaching of mythology can also be used to teach critical thinking skills. By analyzing and interpreting mythological stories, students are encouraged to think about the meaning behind the stories, the symbolism used, and how these myths function within

society. For example, by studying the myth of Prometheus who stole fire to give to humanity, students can discuss themes such as rebellion against authority, sacrifice for the greater good, and the consequences of defying established rules (Evans, 2022). This approach not only enriches students' understanding of mythological stories but also teaches them to think critically about the messages and values conveyed through these stories.

Moreover, the teaching of mythology can also be an effective tool for teaching narrative skills and creative expression. In some educational programs, students are encouraged to rewrite or create new stories based on mythology by combining elements from the original stories with their own ideas (Miller, 2021). This activity not only helps students understand the structure and elements of mythological stories but also gives them the opportunity to express themselves and develop their writing skills. By adapting ancient stories to reflect contemporary issues and values, students can learn to see the relevance of mythology in the modern world and how these stories can be used to explore and convey their own ideas (Garcia, 2023).

In a broader context, the resurgence of interest in mythology in education reflects a larger trend in society where ancient mythology is increasingly seen as a rich source for cultural reflection and self-understanding. Through various media, from literature to film, and from art to education, these myths have been adapted and modernized to reflect contemporary values and issues (Smith, 2021). For example, in the world of film, mythological stories are often used to explore themes that are relevant to modern audiences, such as identity, power, and justice (Davis, 2023). This approach not only makes mythology more accessible to younger generations but also helps them see how these stories remain relevant in a constantly changing world.

Although there are challenges and criticisms of the way mythology is taught and adapted in modern contexts, it cannot be denied that this process has breathed new life into ancient legends, making them more than just stories of the past, but also mirrors for modern society to reflect on their own identities and

values (Clark, 2022). For example, some critics argue that in the effort to make mythology more relevant to modern audiences, the original essence of these stories is sometimes changed or simplified, which can reduce their depth and complexity (Wilson, 2021). However, others argue that the adaptation and reinterpretation of mythology are a natural part of cultural evolution, and that mythology, like other forms of art, must continue to evolve to remain relevant and meaningful for future generations (Thompson, 2023).

Thus, mythology remains a dynamic and enduring force in human culture, continuing to inspire and provoke thought in every era (Jones, 2022). Whether through education, art, or other media, these myths continue to serve as cultural mirrors that help us understand ourselves and the world around us. In a world that is increasingly complex and diverse, the ability to understand and appreciate our mythological heritage is a valuable skill, and the teaching of mythology plays a crucial role in developing this skill. Therefore, the teaching of mythology is not only important for cultural and historical education but also for personal development and cross-cultural understanding in modern global society (Garcia, 2023; Evans, 2022).

CONCLUSION

The reinterpretation of ancient mythology in a modern context shows that these legendary narratives remain relevant and hold strong appeal in various forms of media, such as literature, film, visual arts, and education. Literature research indicates that although these myths are rooted in ancient traditions, they can be adapted to reflect contemporary social and cultural issues such as gender justice, identity, and the environment. The thematic approach in this analysis reveals common patterns in mythological adaptations that allow these ancient narratives to remain alive and meaningful to modern audiences. This transformation not only enriches our understanding of mythology but also strengthens its role in shaping cultural identity and social discourse in the digital age. Thus, ancient mythology continues to be a source of

inspiration and critical reflection in an ever-evolving world.

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