

## Greek and Roman Mythology 01:190:207 M/W 5:35-6:55, RAB 001

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### Course Description

From Apollo to Zeus, the myths of Greece and Rome remain fascinating to modern audiences, inspiring books, films, and music through the ages. This class will provide an overview of the stories that the Greeks and Romans told about their gods, their world, and themselves, as well as the more recent interpretations and creative works related to ancient mythology. Weekly readings of ancient sources in translation will be enhanced by illustrated lectures and guided interpretations of the material.

### Course Learning Goals

- Identify the major characters and narratives of Greco-Roman myth by reading primary sources in translation and viewing images of these myths in lecture
- Learn major trends in the interpretation of myth in the ancient and modern periods
- Recognize modern allusions to ancient myth
- Become generally familiar with the history and literature of the ancient world
- This course meets the requirements for Arts and Literatures [AHP: Analyze arts and/or literatures in themselves and in relation to specific histories, values, languages, cultures, and technologies.]



### Learning Goals for Classics Students

- Classics is a broad discipline, characterized by its interdisciplinary nature. Pursuing Classics means acquiring fundamental language skills in ancient classical languages (Greek, Latin, and, to a lesser degree, Sanskrit), along with a wide-ranging knowledge of the ancient world.
- Studying Classics involves coming to grips with the ancient Greek and Roman civilizations: their myths and literature; their social, military, political and cultural history; their philosophy; and aspects of their material culture. At every stage, students are led to reflect on the many connections of Classics to the modern world, and how these ancient civilizations contributed to shape it.
- As many other Humanities disciplines do, Classics combines language study with the exploration of questions central to many social sciences. Classics students are led to ponder the mechanisms of human psychology, social organization, and historical evolution, and given an opportunity to appreciate the ways in which the individual and the community relate to, shape, and affect one another.
- To better understand what studying Classics entails, students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the core learning goals that motivate the teaching of Classics, listed on the department website, and to contact the Classics undergraduate director with any questions.

### Required Texts

Trzaskoma, Smith, Brunet. *Anthology of Classical myth: Primary sources in Translation*. Hackett. ISBN: 0872207218 [ACM]  
Ovid. *Metamorphoses*. Trans. Martin. Norton. ISBN: 039332642 [MET]  
Corrigan. *Classical Tragedy - Greek and Roman: Eight Plays in Authoritative Modern Translations*. Applause. ISBN: 1557830460 [CT]

Clark. *Exploring Greek Myth*. Wiley-Blackwell. ISBN: 1405194553 [EGM]

The *Anthology* is absolutely necessary. The specific translations of Ovid and Greek tragedy are highly recommended; you may be confused if you use others because of different wording, line numbers, and pages. Other mandatory and optional readings will be posted on Sakai [\*S].

### Grading Scale

A = 91 - 100

B+ = 86 - 90

B = 81 - 85

C+ = 76 - 80

C = 71 - 75

D = 61 - 70

F= 60 and Below

### Assignments

Quizzes: 5 %

- Weekly quiz on Sakai due by the START of class on Wednesday (starting 9/12). Lowest two dropped. Only spellings found in the textbooks/guides will be accepted.

Assignments: 5 %

- We will have 5 in-class group assignments scattered throughout the term. Lowest grade will be dropped.

Midterm: 25 %

- On Oct. 17. Multiple choice

Final: 35 %

- On Dec. 20. Multiple choice
- Cumulative, though with a focus on material after the midterm
- Exams cannot be made up without a valid and documented excuse.

Written assignments: 30 %

- Due Oct. 3 and Dec. 5 (2-3 pages each). Specific guidelines will be available on Sakai
- Late written assignments will be docked one half-letter grade per day late.

Rutgers Integrity Policy:

[http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/files/documents/AI\\_Policy\\_9\\_01\\_2011.pdf](http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/files/documents/AI_Policy_9_01_2011.pdf)

EXTRA CREDIT: Add points to your quiz grade by posting a reference to classical myth on the discussion board on Sakai. Leave your note as a comment in the appropriate forum. One point per posting, but you can only post once a week for up to 10 points. It can be any reference to classical myth that you come across in your daily life. One person per reference, so be sure to check the other postings.

### Format

The reading for each class is due on that day – my lecture will assume that you are familiar with the assigned reading. Because we are reading a variety of primary sources, I recommend that you take detailed notes as you read, and make extensive use of the genealogical tables and index in ACM if you are confused about who is who at any point. If you need further clarification, consult the *Oxford Classical Dictionary* or *New Pauly Encyclopedia*, links on Sakai. These are accurate, scholarly resources that you can access because the library has a subscription: use them instead of Wikipedia, which is often misleading. At the beginning of each week, look on Sakai for a list of names, concepts, and questions to guide your reading and help you study for exams. Powerpoint slides will also be on Sakai: images with stars may appear on exams. The slides are outlines, not summaries of the lecture, so you will find it difficult to do well if you do not come to class.

## Provisional Schedule

Readings are cited by abbreviations for Required Texts (see above), with author or subject and page number. Lines are also given for MET; these may differ if you have a different translation!

### Week 1: Introduction

**W. 9/5:** Introduction: what is myth? *Optional: EGM 1-6*

### Week 2: Greek myths of origins and comparative mythology

**M. 9/10:** Hesiod's *Theogony* ACM (p. 129-160); Apollodorus A and D ACM (p. 17-18 and 21-22), EGM 15-25

**W. 9/12:** Hesiod's *Works and Days* ACM (160-167); Apollodorus E ACM (p. 23), Aeschylus 193 ACM (p. 6-7); Hyginus 54 ACM (p. 232); 'Proem' through 'Second creation' MET 1.1- 606 (p. 15-33), EGM 97-106

### Week 3: The Olympian gods and 'reading' Greek art and rituals

**M. 9/17:** Apollodorus B ACM (p. 19-20); Homeric Hymns 1, 3, 4, 8, 15-24 ACM (p. 168-9, 178-197, 204-7); 'Apollo and the Python' MET 1.607-627 (p. 33); Auden's 'Under which lyre' \*S; *Optional: Woodford 'Myths and Images' \*S*

**W. 9/19:** Homeric Hymns 2, 6, 9-14, 27-33 ACM (p. 169-178, 202-5, 208-10); 'The rape of Proserpina' to 'Proserpina transformed' MET 5.507-746 (p. 174-181); Apollodorus C ACM (p. 20-21); Hyginus 147 ACM (p. 261-2), Pausanias D, K, M ACM (p. 346; 351-2); EGM 6-13; Foley on Mysteries at Eleusis \*S

### Week 4: Gods and Mortals, Men and Women

**M. 9/24:** 'Apollo and Daphne' to 'Jove and Io 2' MET 1.628-1037 (p. 33-46); Apollodorus H ACM (p. 30); 'Jove and Europa' MET 2.1143-1204 (p. 85-87); 'Ganymede' and 'Hyacinthus' MET 10.213-283 (p. 347-9), 'Venus and Adonis' 10.618-857 (p. 359-366); HH 5 ACM (p. 197-202); Hyginus 77 ACM (p. 239)

**W. 9/26:** 'Phaethon' to 'Jove, Callisto, and Arcas' MET 1.1038-2.740 (p. 46-73); 'Acteon and Diana' MET 3.163-316 (p. 95-100); [*Optional: EGM 54-60*]; 'The judgment of Tiresias' MET 3.408-452 (p. 103-4); 'Arachne' and 'Niobe' MET 6.1-450 (p. 189-202); 'Marsyas' MET 6.546-574 (p. 205-6); Callimachus 5 ACM (p. 76-80); Hyginus 62, 168 ACM (p. 234, 265-6); EGM 111-125

### Week 5: A New God? Dionysus and the renewal of Greek tragedy

**M. 10/1:** 'Juno, Jove, and Semele' MET 3.318-408 (p. 100-103); HH 7 ACM (p. 203); Pausanias on Dionysus ACM (p. 344); Dionysian inscriptions ACM (p. 464-8); *Bacchae* CT (p. 369-396)

**W. 10/3:** *Bacchae* CT (p. 396-431); 'Bacchus and Pentheus' MET 3.659-940 (p. 111-119); [*Optional: Zeitlin 'Dionysus in '69' OR watch 'Dionysus in '69' online {NB:naked hippies} \*S*] FIRST PAPER DUE

### Week 6: Greek heroes and Structuralism

**M. 10/8:** EGM 68-79; Pindar ACM (p. 356-60); 'Pelops' MET 6.575-589 (p. 206); EGM 43-53; 'Perseus and Andromeda/Medusa' MET 4.908-1094 (p. 150-6); Pherecydes AMC (p. 354-5); Apollodorus F, I, J ACM (p. 23-24 and 30-32)

**W. 10/10:** 'Orpheus and Eurydice' MET 10.1-122 (p. 341-344); 'Death of Orpheus' MET 11.1-94 (p. 369-371); Apollodorus G ACM (p. 25-30); Hyginus 3 and 12-27 ACM (p. 217-218 and 220-225); 'Medea and Jason' to 'Flight of Medea' MET 7.1-574 (p. 223-240). [*Optional: Csapo on Propp S\**]

### Week 7: Medea

**M. 10/15:** *Medea* CT (p. 311-18, 322-28, 332-3, 341-8); monologue from Seneca's *Medea* CT (p. 536-543); Sophocles fr. 583 ACM (p. 393); Aelian 5.21 ACM (p. 2); Pausanias C ACM (p. 345)

**W. 10/17: EXAM**

Week 8: Heracles and Theseus: Structuralism redux and civic myths

**M. 10/22:** Apollodorus K ACM (p. 33-45); Hyginus 29-36 ACM (p. 225-228); ‘Achelous and Hercules’ to ‘Jove and the apotheosis of Hercules’ MET 9.1-406 (p. 303-315); Xenophon ACM (p. 435-7)

[Optional: duBois ‘Humans and animals’ and ‘Men and women’ \*S]

**W. 10/24:** Apollodorus L and N ACM (p. 45-46 and 54-57); ‘Minos and Ariadne’ and ‘Daedalus and Icarus’ MET 8.208-327 (p. 269-272); Ovid 10 ACM (p. 318); Bacchylides 17 ACM (p. 69-72); Hyginus 37-43, 47 ACM (p. 228-231); Plutarch ACM (p. 376-7); EGM 80-95; [Optional: Barringer ‘Making heroes in the Athenian Agora’ \*S]

Week 9: Oedipus, Thebes, and Freud

**M. 10/29:** Apollodorus M ACM (p. 46-54); Hyginus 66-74 ACM (p. 235-238); *Oedipus* CT (p. 185-90, 195-202, 211-17, 221-36) EGM 106-110

**W. 10/31:** *Antigone* CT (p. 255-73, 291-5); Morales \*S

Week 10: Trojan War, Helen, and History

**M. 11/5:** ‘Peleus and Thetis’ MET 11.313-377 (p. 378-380); Herodotus ACM (p. 123-128); Thucydides ACM (p. 404-9); Sappho 16 \*S; Hyginus 92-107 ACM (p. 243-248); Proclus A and B ACM (p. 378-380); ‘Iphigenia’ MET 12.1-57 (p. 407-408), *Iliad* 16 \*S; EGM 126-139

**W. 11/7:** *Iliad* 24 \*S; ‘Death of Achilles’ MET 12.846-904 (p.432-434); Vergil 2 ACM (p. 410-420); Hyginus 108-118 ACM (p. 249-251); Proclus C and D ACM (p. 380-381)

Week 11: Homecomings and allegory

**M. 11/12:** Proclus E (p. 381); Hyginus 117 and 119 ACM (p. 250-251); *Agamemnon* CT (p. 17-29; 39-47), *Eumenides* CT (p. 97-107)

**W. 11/14:** Hyginus 125-7 ACM (p. 252-256); *Odyssey* 9-10, 23 \*S (p. 123-157, 353-64); Theocritus 11 ACM (p. 399-401); Heraclitus ACM (p. 116-120); Sallustius ACM (p. 383-4). NB: Read Hyginus **first!**

Week 12: Greece to Rome

**M. 11/19:** *Odyssey* 23 \*S, EGM 30-42; Horace 2.19 ACM (p. 212-213); Lucretius 1.1-101 ACM (p. 298-301); [Optional: Feeney ‘Myth’ \*S]

Week 13: Roman myth

**M. 11/26:** Vergil, *Aeneid* 4 and 12 \*S; MET 14.107-234 (p. 484-487),

**W. 11/28:** MET 621-1243 (p. 499-518); MET 15.546-919 (p. 537-548), *Fasti* ‘15 Feb.’ ‘15 March’, May 2, ‘9 June’\*S

Week 14: Making your own myths

**M. 12/3:** Livy selections \*S, [Optional: Roller ‘Exemplarity in Roman culture’ \*S]

**W. 12/5:** Arrian ACM (p. 59-60), Diodorus of Sicily 5.66-5.73 ACM (p. 96-101); Alexander Romance selections \*S, ‘The apotheosis of Julius Caesar’ MET 15.920-1112 (p. 548-554) Suetonius on Nero \*S  
SECOND PAPER DUE

Week 15: Conclusion

**M. 12/10:** Plato ACM (p. 363-375); on Atlantis \*S; Xenophanes ACM (p. 433-4); EGM 154-167

**W. 12/12:** Final review, Barthes, selections from *Mythologies* \*S; [Optional: Veyne ‘Did the Greeks believe in their myths?']

**FINAL EXAM: DEC. 20, 4-7 PM** [<http://finalexams.rutgers.edu/>]