

U244-370: Classical Mythology

Course Format: Online

Course Author: Matt Hogan, Ph.D.

Course credits: 3

Pre/Corequisites: None; Appropriate for second-year or higher college students.

Course Description:

The Greeks were a great mythopoeic people, in dramatic contrast to the Romans, who contributed to classical myth largely by adapting and revising the Greek heritage to fit in with their national and political agenda. This course is a study of the myths and legends of Greece and Rome, with emphasis on their sources and importance in the history of Western artistic, psychological, and imaginative experience. The course is designed especially for students investigating classical myth for the first time, although more advanced and continuing students will also find it engaging. The 24 units of the course follow the history of classical myth from its earliest roots in Mesopotamian myth and Greek political and cultural history through its later reworking in Roman myth.

Required Course Materials:

- *Classical Myth*, 6th edition by Barry Powell (2009) ISBN-10: 0136061710
- *The Iliad of Homer*, translated by Richmond Lattimore (1967) ISBN-10: 0226469409
- *The Odyssey of Homer*, translated by Richmond Lattimore (1990) ISBN-10: 0553213997

Note: For *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*, other editions are acceptable. Lattimore's translation is preferred.

Hardware Requirements

You will need a webcam, speakers, and a microphone. You will complete your exams through an online proctor, requiring all three components.

Course Learning Objectives:

- Discuss the nature and definition of myth, with particular application to the Classical world.
- Examine the content of Greek myths of creation, the Olympians, fertility, heroism, and death.
- Analyze the content and characters of the epic myths, *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*.
- Critique the interpretation of myths in modern scholarship.

Course Overview:

UNIT #	UNIT TOPIC	EVALUATED ACTIVITIES
1	The Nature of Myth	Written Assignment, Unit Quiz
2	The Cultural Context of Classical Myth	Written Assignment, Unit Quiz
3	The Development of Classical Myth	Written Assignment, Unit Quiz
4	Myths of Creation: The Rise of Zeus	Written Assignment, Unit Quiz
5	Myths of Creation: The Origins of Mortals	Written Assignment, Unit Quiz
6	Myths of the Olympians: Zeus and Hera	Written Assignment, Unit Quiz
7	Myths of the Olympians: The Male Deities	Written Assignment, Unit Quiz
8	Myths of the Olympians: The Female Deities	Written Assignment, Unit Quiz
9	Myths of Fertility: Demeter	Written Assignment, Unit Quiz



10	Myths of Fertility: Dionysus	Written Assignment, Unit Quiz
11	Myths of Death: Encounters with the Underworld	Written Assignment, Unit Quiz
Midcourse Exam		
12	Introduction to Heroic Myth	Written Assignment, Unit Quiz
13	Perseus and Myths of the Argive Plain	Written Assignment, Unit Quiz
14	Heracles	Written Assignment, Unit Quiz
15	Theseus and the Myths of Athens	Written Assignment, Unit Quiz
16	The Myths of Crete	Written Assignment, Unit Quiz
17	Oedipus and the Myths of Thebes	Written Assignment, Unit Quiz
18	Jason and the Myths of Iolcus and Calydon	Written Assignment, Unit Quiz
19	The Trojan War	Written Assignment, Unit Quiz
20	The Fall of Troy	Written Assignment, Unit Quiz
21	The Return of Odysseus	Written Assignment, Unit Quiz
22	Roman Myth: The Legends of Aeneas	Written Assignment, Unit Quiz
23	Roman Myth: The Legends of Early Rome	Written Assignment, Unit Quiz
24	Theories of Myth Interpretation	Written Assignment, Unit Quiz
Final Exam		

Evaluation Methods:

Your final grade will be based on your performance on the following:

- 1) Written Assignments (52.5%)
- 2) Quizzes (22.5%)
- 3) Exams (25%)

Written Assignments (52.5%)

Reading comprehension and analysis questions are assigned in each unit of this course and will cumulatively account for 52.5% of your final course grade.

Quizzes (22.5%)

Quizzes to assess recall of course content are assigned in each unit of this course and will cumulatively account for 22.5% of your final course grade.

Exams (25%)

A midcourse and final exam are assigned to assess depth of understanding of course content. The exams are weighted equally and will cumulatively account for 25% of your final course grade.

Exam Method: Online with Proctoring

This course requires all students to complete exams online with a proctoring service. Students receive two attempts on each exam. If you elect to take a second attempt, the average score of both exams will be recorded.

Grading Scale:

The following grading scale is used for evaluating all course requirements and determination of final grade earned:

A = 93-100	B = 83-87.9	C = 70-77.9	D = 60-69.9
AB = 88-92.9	BC = 78-82.9		F = Below 60

Pass/Fail Option

Students who enroll in an Independent Learning (IL) course under the pass/fail option will receive a final grade of S in place of a final grade equivalent to an A, AB, B, BC, or C and a final grade of U in place of a final grade equivalent to a D or F.