

CLASSICS 31: Greek Mythology

Summer 2018

Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:30-11:50am

Building 110-112

Instructor: Lizzy Ten-Hove

Office Hours: Wednesday 11-12 or by appointment, Building 110-217

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Course Description and Goals

This course aims to give a thorough background in the principal characters, stories, and contexts of Greek myth, as well as their many literary and visual expressions. We'll look at the long tradition — ancient and modern — of interpreting myth through various religious, historical, philosophical, psychological, and narratological lenses. In addition, we'll explore the continuing relevance and reinterpretation of Greek mythology in the modern world.

Required Text

- Lisa Maurizio, *Classical Mythology in Context* (Oxford, 2016)

Evaluation	(3 units)	(4 units)	(5 units)
In-Class Participation	20%	20%	20%
Weekly Quizzes	20%	15%	15%
Midterm Exam	25%	20%	20%
Final Paper/ Project	N/A	15%	15%
Final Exam	35%	30%	30%

Attendance Policy

Preparation for, attendance of, and active participation in each session of the class is especially important in the fast-paced summer term. If you have a medical or family emergency that requires you to be absent, please let me know and we will arrange a time to meet and go over the work. More than two unexcused absences during the quarter will result in the loss of a third of a letter grade for the course.

Weekly Quizzes

10-minute weekly quizzes will take place at the beginning of Tuesday sessions starting in week two. Quizzes will cover material from readings and lectures from the previous week; your lowest mark will be dropped automatically.

Final Paper or Creative Project (4 or 5 units)

If you are taking the class for 4 or 5 units, you may choose either to write a short research paper on some aspect of Greek mythology or its reception, or to respond to the course material through a creative project in any medium you choose. Length expectations vary depending on how many units you are taking: those taking the course for 4 units should plan on a 5-7 page paper, and those taking it for 5 units should write an 8-10 page paper. Please discuss your plans with me before or during Week 6.

A Note on Readings

Please plan to read the assigned passages for each class section *before* class, taking careful notes and bringing your questions, examples, and ideas to discuss in class. A copy of the textbook will be on reserve in the Classics Library in building 110 along with copies of other reference works and readings which may be of interest as you develop your own projects and explore interests. I will provide you with an outline and copy of the slide deck for each lecture to use during notetaking and review.

Statement on Accessibility

“Students who may need an academic accommodation based on the impact of a disability must initiate the request with the Office of Accessible Education (OAE). Professional staff will evaluate the request with required documentation, recommend reasonable accommodations, and prepare an Accommodation Letter for faculty dated in the current quarter in which the request is being made. Students should contact the OAE as soon as possible since timely notice is needed to coordinate accommodations. The OAE is located at 563 Salvatierra Walk (phone: 723-1066, URL: <http://studentaffairs.stanford.edu/oae>).”

Schedule

Week 1: Myth & Mythmaking

- 6.26 What is Myth?
Readings: *CMIC* 11-35 (optional)
- 6.28 Cosmogony and the Olympian Order
Readings: *CMIC* 37-55, 76-97; Hesiod handout

Week 2: Zeus and Hera

- 7.3 Zeus, Father of (So Many) Gods and Men
Readings: *CMIC* 99-116, 125-45; Homer handout
Quiz 1
- 7.5 No class today
Readings: Aeschylus, *Prometheus Bound*
Optional viewing: Cambridge Greek Play's 2013 production of *Prometheus Bound* in the original Greek with English subtitles (https://youtu.be/iVBD4cmI3_E)

Week 3: Death, Love, and War

- 7.10 Demeter, Persephone, and Hades: Don't Eat the Pomegranate
Readings: *CMIC* 147-61, 174-202; *Hymns to Demeter* handout
Quiz 2
- 7.12 Aphrodite and Her Loves
Readings: *CMIC* 203-18, 226-46; *Hymn to Aphrodite* handout; Homer handout 2

Week 4: Olympians Continued

7.17 Herms and Hearths: Hermes and Hestia
Readings: *CMIC* 286-95, 309-333; *Hymn to Hermes* handout
Quiz 3

7.19 Athena and Poseidon
Readings: *CMIC* 247-259, 266-84; Aeschylus' *Eumenides* handout, Homer handout 3

Week 5: The Divine Twins

7.24 Midterm Exam (in-class)

7.26 Apollo and Artemis
Readings: *CMIC* 335-48, 358-383; *Hymns to Apollo and Artemis* handout; Aeschylus' *Agamemnon* handout

Week 6: Thebes

Please meet with me about your final project plans sometime this week.

7.31 A Stranger in Thebes: Dionysus and Mystery Cult
Readings: *CMIC* 387-400, 411-29; Euripides' *Bacchae*
Quiz 4

8.2 The Labors of Heracles, Oedipus, and Exile from Thebes
Readings: *CMIC* 436-451; selections from Euripides' *Heracles* and Sophocles' *Oedipus Tyrannus* and *Antigone*

Week 7: Heroes and Heroines?

8.7 The Trojan War
Readings: *CMIC* 451-2, 466-96; Homer handout 4
Quiz 5

8.9 (Anti-) Heroines of Greek Mythology
Readings: *CMIC* 497-510, 519-42; Apollonius handout, Euripides' *Medea*

Optional extra credit: class trip to see Stanford Repertory Theater's production of Euripides' *Hecuba* and *Helen* 8-10pm at Roble Studio Theater. (There are performances Thursday-Sunday starting 7.27 if this timing doesn't work for you!)

Week 8: Homecomings

8.14 Odysseus and Other Wanderers

Readings: *CMIC* 543-61, 574-602; Homer handout 5

Quiz 6

8.16 Iphigenia, Psyche, and Happily Ever After?

Readings: *CMIC* 603-12, 619-20, 624-29, 642-5; Euripides handout, Apuleius handout

8.17 Optional review session, time and location TBD

Final Exam: 10-11:30am on Saturday 8.18, location TBD