

# Final Essay Prospectus

**Title/Topic:** The Roles of Hermes' in Ancient Greece

**Thesis:** Hemes functioned as a messenger, guide, and helper to both the Greek gods and to mortals in ancient Greece.

- **Introduction**

- Who is Hermes?
- List Hermes' functions and roles/State thesis

- **Summary**

- About Hermes
  - Origin of Hermes and his talents (Arlene Allan, chapter 1)
  - Associate the following myths
    - Zeus & Maia
    - Hermes steals Apollo's Cattle

- **Interpretation/Critique**

- Interpret Hermes as the messenger/communicator for the Gods
  - Homeric Hymn to Demeter->Zeus sends Hermes to persuade Hades to release persephone
  - Include another myth
  - Include another myth
- Interpret Hermes as a guide and protector
  - Guider of souls
  - Leader of dreams (Arlene Allan, pg 44)
  - Interpret myths:
    - Homeric Hymn to Demeter-> guides Persephone back to Demeter
    - Guided Perseus to where Medusa lived
    - Guides/protects Priam (king of Troy) into Achille's camp during the Trojan War
- Interpret Hermes as a helper
  - Helps gods and mortals alike
  - Interpret myths:
    - Slew Argus for Zeus
    - Rescued Dionysus from Semele's burning body
    - The Odyssey->Protects Odysseus from Circe by giving him 'moly'
    - Aides Perseus in his journey

- **Conclusion**

- Hermes' importance in ancient Greece
- Restate thesis
- Summarize interpretations

## Works Cited

Allan, Arlene. *Hermes*. London: Routledge, 2018.

Mellenthin, Jessica, and Susan O. Shapiro. "Hermes." *Mythology Unbound: An Online Textbook for Classical Mythology*, Rebus Community, 2017, pp. 113–123.

"HERMES GOD OF." *HERMES GOD OF - Greek Mythology*, <https://www.theoi.com/Olympios/HermesGod.html#Home>.

"Hermes, The Impenetrable Messenger—The Great Greek Myths." *Films On Demand*, Films Media Group, 2015, [fod.infobase.com/PortalPlaylists.aspx?wID=106564&xtid=120483](https://fod.infobase.com/PortalPlaylists.aspx?wID=106564&xtid=120483). Accessed 28 Nov. 2022.