The *Iliad* and its Hollywood adaptation *Troy*, differ in many ways. Many important changes were made such as the length of the war and vital character changes. However, my focus resides in the lack of involvement of the gods in the Trojan conflict. In the *Iliad*, the gods were an integral part of the story directly influencing battles, fighting conditions, and mortals’ decisions. Not only are the gods present, but they are active drivers of the plot. In the movie *Troy*, the gods never make an on-screen appearance. The gods, especially Apollo, are referenced frequently but their actual involvement remains ambiguous.

I believe the motivation behind this is indicative of our cultures ideals and understanding of the world. Much of the western world is either agnostic or atheist. At the very least, there is almost no one (probably no one) who practices the classical traditions of Greek mythology. The presence of gods would serve to turn this not only to the realm of fantasy but would also cease to be relatable. As a culture, we like to think that involvement of deities is a matter of association. Meaning, that the involvement of the gods is held in the perception of the people that believe in them. For instance, the Trojan Horse trap was successful because of the Trojans desire to appease the gods. I believe the directors/writers chose these changes to make the story more grounded in reality. By not giving these heroes any special help from the gods, it makes them more relatable and easier to empathize with.

Also how good was Sean Bean as Odysseus?

I think you made a lot of good points and I never thought about the reasoning behind the omission of the gods would be logistical. I imagine that not only were CGI costs higher back then, but the quality was a lot worse and that would take away from the experience.