



CLASSICS 103

CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY

FALL 2017

Dr. Kristen M. Gentile

Course: CLAS 103.01 (CRN: 13918)

Time: MWF 11 AM – 11:50 AM

Class Location: Lightsey B09

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Office Hours: MWF 10-10:30 AM,
MWF 1-1:30 PM, and by appointment



COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

This course will introduce students to some of the main elements of ancient mythology. It is designed to provide an introduction to the divine myths and heroic legends of ancient Greece and Rome as found in literature, art, and archaeological remains. Ancient and modern theories about myth, the functions of myth in religion and society, and the influence of classical myth on subsequent literature and art will also be discussed in class. This course will challenge students to explore possible interpretations of the stories within their cultural context and to appreciate the literary sources in which they are transmitted.



Close attention will be paid to the major literary and material sources of evidence for Greek and Roman myth. Consequently, the required reading will be from original ancient Greek and Latin sources in translation. In addition, lectures will include illustrations of the evidence from material culture and archaeological sites as well as ancient and modern artistic depictions connected with the myths.

GENERAL EDUCATION STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

This course meets the following General Education requirements for Humanities:

Student Learning Outcome 1: Students analyze how ideas are represented, interpreted or valued in various expressions of human culture.

Student Learning Outcome 2: Students examine relevant primary source materials as understood by the discipline and interpret the material in writing assignments.

These outcomes will be assessed in an essay on the final exam.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Demonstrate knowledge of the myths of Greece and Rome (quizzes; exams).
- Explain and apply the heroic pattern to legendary and historical figures from ancient Greece and Rome (quizzes; exams).
- Analyze how original Greek and Roman myths have been appropriated by another culture (analytical paper).

There are no prerequisites for this course.

REQUIRED TEXTS

- Aeschylus. *Oresteia*. Translated by Peter Meineck with introduction by Helene P. Foley. Hackett, 1998. (ISBN: 978-0872203907)
- Euripides. *Ten Plays*. Translated by Moses Hadas and John McLean. Bantam Classic, 1990. (ISBN: 978-0553213638)
- Homer. *The Essential Homer: Selections from the Iliad and the Odyssey*. Translated by Stanley Lombardo with introduction by Sheila Murnaghan. Hackett, 2000. (ISBN: 978-0872205406)
- Ovid. *Metamorphoses*. Translated by David Raeburn with introduction by Denis Feeney. Penguin Classics, 1998. (ISBN: 978-0140447897)
- Sophocles. *The Complete Plays of Sophocles*. Translated by Robert Bagg and James Scully. Harper Perennial, 2011. (ISBN: 978-0062020345)
- Trzaskoma, Stephen, R. Scott Smith, and Stephen Brunet with additional translations by other scholars and an appendix on Linear B sources by Thomas G. Palaima. *Anthology of Classical Myth: Primary Sources in Translation*. 2nd Edition. Hackett, 2016. (ISBN: 978-1624664977)
- OAKS course website – accessible through My Charleston (<https://my.cofc.edu/>)

Note on translations: There are many translations of these ancient texts available both in bookstores and online. These texts were chosen specifically for this course. If you would like to use a different translation, I highly recommend that you check with me first. Some available editions, especially those on the internet, have poor or outdated translations. It is your responsibility to make sure that you are reading the correct assignment. In addition, all references to the texts in lecture and on exams will be from the assigned translations.

SUMMARY OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Quizzes	100	Dates listed on course schedule
Exam #1	125	Wednesday, September 20
Exam #2	125	Wednesday, October 25
Analytical Paper	150	Monday, November 20
Final Exam	150	Monday, December 11, 12-3 PM
TOTAL	650	

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- **Quizzes**

There will be six quizzes on the readings and lecture materials throughout the semester. The dates for these quizzes are listed on the course schedule at the end of the syllabus. These quizzes will cover the readings and lecture material from the previous weeks (i.e. since the last quiz/exam). The format of these quizzes will vary and may include matching questions, multiple choice questions, identification questions, and/or short answer questions. Details for each quiz will be announced during the class period before.

There will be six quizzes during the semester. Each quiz will be worth 20 points. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped.

Quizzes may only be made up under exceptional circumstances. You are encouraged to use the Absence Memo office. However, whether an absence is excused or not is ultimately at the discretion of the professor. Quizzes must be made up within one week of the original quiz date. The format for a makeup quiz may differ from the quiz given in class, but will cover the same course material.

- **Exams**

There will be two exams during the semester (Wednesday, September 20 and Wednesday, October 25) and a final exam during exam period. The exams will cover the assigned readings and the lecture material. The format of the exams may include matching questions, multiple choice questions, identification questions, short answer questions, and/or essay questions.

Makeup exams will only be allowed in exceptional circumstances. You are encouraged to use the Absence Memo office. However, whether an absence is excused or not is ultimately at the discretion of the professor. Exams must be made up within one week of the original date. The format for a makeup exam may differ from the exam given in class, but will cover the same course material.

The final exam will be given on Monday, December 11 at 12:00-3:00 PM, as has been determined by the College. The final must be taken at the scheduled time unless formal permission is granted to reschedule. For more information on the College's final examination policy, see the "Final Examinations" section of the undergraduate catalog.

- **Analytical Paper**

There will be one 5-page writing assignment. It is due Monday, November 20. The writing prompt and detailed instructions will be distributed in class and posted on OAKS after the first exam.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

I expect you to behave like responsible adults who are interested in the subject matter. If you're not: "fake it 'til you make it." Behaving like a responsible adult involves the following behaviors:

- Be respectful of me and of your classmates during class discussions. We will at times deal with sensitive issues such as sexuality, rape, incest, cannibalism, and murder. I will be respectful, but these are issues within ancient mythology that we must address. There will be images (both ancient and modern) on lecture slides that depict these issues.
- Avoid surreptitious use of technology (i.e., don't check Facebook or text during class). It's entirely obvious and extremely rude.
- Silence all electronic devices.
- Pay attention and contribute your own ideas when appropriate.

Daily class attendance is expected and necessary for success. However, if it is necessary for you to miss class, you are still responsible for the lecture material. If you miss class, you will miss necessary information. I highly recommend getting notes from a classmate if you have to be absent.

COMMUNICATION EXPECTATIONS

I encourage you to contact me by email if you have questions. I will only be on campus on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, but will check email throughout the day when I am not on campus. I am unlikely to respond to emails sent during the evening until the next morning.

Please keep in mind that any communication between student and instructor is professional interaction. With that in mind, I will endeavor to be respectful and considerate in emails to you. Please do the same when you write to me:

- Use your CofC email account
- Include our course name in your subject line (e.g., "Question on reading for CLAS 103"; Myth class on Monday")
- Begin your note with a salutation (e.g., "Dear Dr. Gentile,");
- Do not use texting shorthand
- End your note with an appropriate closing and your name (e.g., "Thanks, George Smith").

I expect you to check your CofC email on a daily basis. This is the primary way with which I will communicate. I also recommend checking OAKS on a regularly basis. Any major changes in the course or reading schedule will be posted there. In addition, grades will be updated on OAKS on a regular basis.

GRADING SCALE

A	94-100	4.0	C+	77-79	2.3	D-	60-63	0.7
A-	90-93	3.7	C	74-76	2.0	F	59 and below	0.0
B+	87-89	3.3	C-	70-73	1.7	WA	0	0.0
B	84-86	3.0	D+	67-69	1.3	XF	0	0.0
B-	80-83	2.7	D	64-66	1.0			

ACADEMIC RESOURCES

Throughout the research and writing process, you should make use of the resources available to you at Addlestone Library. Reference librarians are valuable sources of information about both the resources of the library and the research process. You are also encouraged to visit the Writing Lab on the first floor of the Addlestone Library. Assistance from the Writing Lab can improve thesis statements, quality of prose, and logical coherence of your research papers. The Writing Lab can also provide guidance on citations and bibliography. More information about the Writing Lab can be found at their website: <http://csl.cofc.edu/labs/writing-lab/>.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR DISABILITIES

Any student in this class who has a documented disability and has been approved to receive accommodations through SNAP Services should come to office hours as soon as possible to discuss this with me.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Please be advised that any form of academic dishonesty is entirely unacceptable and will result in a failing grade for the assignment, and possibly for the course.

Ignorance is not an excuse. Cheating of any form including undocumented references will be considered intentional and thus plagiarized. It is your responsibility to make sure you understand proper documentation of sources and the rules surrounding plagiarism. If you are unsure, you should talk to me, a librarian, or the Writing Lab.

CLASSICS PROGRAM POLICY ON HONOR CODE VIOLATIONS

The College of Charleston's policy regarding Honor Code violations states the following:

The Honor Code specifically forbids lying, cheating, attempted cheating, stealing, attempted stealing and plagiarism. Students at the College are bound by honor and by their acceptance of admission to the College to abide by the Code and to report violations.

All faculty members at the College are required to abide by the College's Honor Code and to report any suspected violations to the Office of Student Affairs.

A student who is found by the Honor Board to have committed a Class 1 or Class 2 violation of the Honor Code in connection with any requirement for a course in the Classics Department will receive a final grade of "XF" for the course. Those admitting to or found by the Honor Board to have committed a Class 3 violation will receive sanctions as deemed appropriate by the instructor. These actions will be taken in addition to any other sanction that may be imposed by the College's Honor Board.

Revised version adopted by the Classics Department faculty, April 3, 2007

COURSE SCHEDULE

The assignments are **listed on the day that they are due** (i.e. when we will discuss them in class).

Assignments are given according to the required texts of the class, using the abbreviations listed below. The numbers listed in the syllabus refer to the page numbers of the required text (not line or section numbers). Occasionally additional information about the assignment is provided in parentheses.

AESCH	Aeschylus, <i>Oresteia</i>
ANTH	<i>Anthology of Classical Myth: Primary Sources in Translation</i>
ESS HOM	Homer, <i>The Essential Homer: Selections from the Iliad and the Odyssey</i>
EUR	Euripides, <i>Ten Plays</i>
MET	Ovid, <i>Metamorphoses</i>
SOPH	Sophocles, <i>The Complete Plays of Sophocles</i>

If you choose not to purchase the required texts, it is your responsibility to complete the correct reading assignment. If you have a question about an upcoming assignment, be sure to ask. Ignorance or confusion is not an excuse for being unprepared for class or an exam.

	Discussion Topics and Assignments Due	Assigned Readings
WEDNESDAY August 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Syllabus Expectations for the Course 	
FRIDAY August 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approaches to Myth Sources for Ancient Mythology Brief History of Greece and Rome 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ANTH 363-368 (1st ed. 404-409) (Thucydides 1.1-12)
MONDAY August 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Myths of Creation Origin of the Gods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ANTH 129-146 (<i>Theogony</i> 1-508) MET 5-13 (Creation; Four Ages)
WEDNESDAY August 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zeus' Rise to Power Origins of Mankind and Womankind 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ANTH 146-156 (<i>Theogony</i> 509-885) ANTH 160-167 (<i>Works and Days</i> 1-234)
FRIDAY September 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dividing the Cosmos Overview of the Olympians Greek vs. Roman Names 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ANTH 156-160 (<i>Theogony</i> 886-1030) ANTH 96-101 (Diodorus Siculus 5.66-73)
MONDAY September 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>QUIZ #1 (material from 8/23-9/1)</u> King of the Gods: Zeus Queen of the Gods: Hera Relationship between Zeus and Hera Zeus and His Many Mortal Lovers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESS HOM 134-140 (<i>Iliad</i> 14.149-359) ANTH 205, 207 (<i>Hymn 12, Hymn 23</i>) MET 34-42 (Io) MET 67-73 (Callisto) MET 88-90 (Europa) MET 389 (Ganymede)
WEDNESDAY September 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children of Leto: Apollo and Artemis Connections between Myth and Religion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ANTH 178-187 (<i>Hymn 3</i>) MET 28-33 (Daphne) MET 99-104 (Actaeon)
FRIDAY September 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Son of Maia and Zeus: Hermes Brotherly Love among the Gods The Many Functions of Hermes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ANTH 187-197 (<i>Hymn 4</i>)
MONDAY September 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demeter and Persephone Mother-Daughter Relationships Women's Roles in Myth and Religion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ANTH 169-178 (<i>Hymn 2</i>) ANTH 80-83 (Callimachus)

WEDNESDAY September 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Olympian Love Triangle: Aphrodite, Hephaestus, and Ares Conflict between Love, Sex, and Virginity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ANTH 197-203 (<i>Hymns 5-6</i>) MET 139-140 (Venus and Mars) MET 407-419 (Adonis; Atalanta) EUR 75-78 (<i>Hippolytus 1-120</i>)
FRIDAY September 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> QUIZ #2 (material from 9/4-9/13) Transgressor of Boundaries: Dionysus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ANTH 168-169 (<i>Hymn 1</i>) ANTH 203 (<i>Hymn 7</i>) EUR 317-332 (<i>The Bacchantes</i>)
MONDAY September 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Worshippers of Dionysus The Price of Denying a God: Pentheus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EUR 332-353 (<i>The Bacchantes</i>)
WEDNESDAY September 20	EXAM #1	
FRIDAY September 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Epic Cycle Judgment of Paris Embarking for Troy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ANTH 337-341 (1st ed. 378-382) (Proclus) ANTH 226-229 (1st ed. 242-245) (Hyginus #89-98) EUR 378-401 (<i>Iphigenia in Aulis 801-1531</i>)
MONDAY September 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homer and the Homeric Question 10th Year of the Trojan War: the Narrative of the <i>Iliad</i> The Wrath of Achilles and Conflict with Agamemnon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESS HOM 1-19 (<i>Iliad</i> Book 1) ESS HOM 92-106 (<i>Iliad</i> 9.186-738)
WEDNESDAY September 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Women of the <i>Iliad</i>: Helen and Andromache 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESS HOM 28-42 (<i>Iliad</i> Book 3) ESS HOM 69-82 (<i>Iliad</i> 6.103-557)
FRIDAY September 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Role of the Gods in the <i>Iliad</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESS HOM 43-51 (<i>Iliad</i> 4.1-238,449-494) ESS HOM 141-150 (<i>Iliad</i> 15.1-657) ESS HOM 195-197 (<i>Iliad</i> 20.1-79)
MONDAY October 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Battle between Achilles and Hector The Confrontation between Achilles and Priam 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESS HOM 205-221 (<i>Iliad</i> Book 22) ESS HOM 230-240 (<i>Iliad</i> Book 24)
WEDNESDAY October 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> QUIZ #3 (material from 9/22-10/2) Odysseus and the Trojan Horse The Fall of Troy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESS HOM 294-298 (<i>Odyssey</i> 8.490-632) ANTH 369-379 (1st ed. 410-420) (Vergil, <i>Aeneid</i> 2.1-558) MET 497-517 (Judgment of Arms; Ajax's Suicide; Fall of Troy)
FRIDAY October 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Fate of the Trojans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EUR 197-231 (<i>Trojan Women</i>)
MONDAY October 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Return of the Greek Heroes The Lives of Trojan Captives 	EUR 113-146 (<i>Andromache</i>)
WEDNESDAY October 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Long Journey Home to Ithaca: the Narrative of the <i>Odyssey</i> Waylaid by Calypso 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESS HOM 241-244 (<i>Odyssey</i> 1.1-102) ESS HOM 269-284 (<i>Odyssey</i> Book 5)
FRIDAY October 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Odysseus' Dangerous Encounters Cannibals: Cicones, Cyclops, Laestrygonians Mind-altering Drugs: Lotus Eaters, Circe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESS HOM 298-331 (<i>Odyssey</i> Books 9-10)

MONDAY October 16	<u>NO SCHOOL FALL BREAK</u>	
WEDNESDAY October 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Odysseus' Journey to the Underworld Final Obstacles: Sirens, Scylla and Charybdis, Island of the Sun 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESS HOM 332-365 (<i>Odyssey</i> Books 11-12)
FRIDAY October 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>QUIZ #4 (material from 10/4-10/18)</u> Odysseus' Return to Ithaca Revenge on the Suitors Reuniting with the Family 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESS HOM 423-453 (<i>Odyssey</i> Books 21-22)
MONDAY October 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other Accounts of Odysseus Hero or Anti-Hero 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SOPH 191-200 (<i>Philoktetes</i> 1-34) SOPH 249-256 (<i>Philoktetes</i> 974-1080) SOPH 264-272 (<i>Philoktetes</i> 1222-1305) SOPH 84-95 (<i>Aias</i> 1223-1420)
WEDNESDAY October 25	<u>EXAM #2</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
FRIDAY October 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Cursed House of Atreus Cannibalism and Tantalus Cheating and Pelops Competition between Atreus and Thyestes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ANTH 224-226 (1st ed. 239-242) (Hyginus #77-88) MET 229 (Pelops) AESCH 3-31 (<i>Agamemnon</i>)
MONDAY October 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agamemnon's Return to Mycenae Clytemnestra's Revenge 	AESCH 31-66 (<i>Agamemnon</i>)
WEDNESDAY November 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More Family Dysfunction in Mycenae The Children of Agamemnon: Electra and Orestes The Murder of Clytemnestra 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AESCH 69-113 (<i>Libation Bearers</i>)
FRIDAY November 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>QUIZ #5 (material from 10/27-11/1)</u> The Myths of Thebes Founder of Thebes: Cadmus The Complicated Family Life of Oedipus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MET 93-98 (Cadmus) ANTH 46-54 (Apollodorus M) SOPH 397-424 (<i>Oedipus the King</i> 1-462)
MONDAY November 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Aftermath of Oedipus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SOPH 472-491 (<i>Oedipus the King</i> 1182-1530) SOPH 629-636 (<i>Antigone</i> 1-99)
WEDNESDAY November 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Labors of Herakles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ANTH 33-45 (Apollodorus K) MET 339-355 (Achelous; Nessus; Death of Hercules)
FRIDAY November 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Loves of Herakles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SOPH 107-179 (<i>Women of Trakhis</i>)
MONDAY November 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jason and the Argonauts Quest for the Golden Fleece 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ANTH 25-30 (Apollodorus G) EUR 35-52 (<i>Medea</i>)
WEDNESDAY November 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jason and Medea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EUR 52-72(<i>Medea</i>)
FRIDAY November 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>QUIZ #6 (material from 11/3-11/15)</u> The Athenian Royal Family The Origin of "Ionia" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EUR 103-161 (<i>Ion</i>)

MONDAY November 20	<u>SHORT PAPER DUE</u>	
WEDNESDAY November 22	<u>NO SCHOOL</u> <u>THANKSGIVING BREAK</u>	
FRIDAY November 24	<u>NO SCHOOL</u> <u>THANKSGIVING BREAK</u>	
MONDAY November 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Myths of Crete • King Minos and the Minotaur 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MET 268-273 (Theseus; Minos) • MET 294-303 (Minos; Ariadne; Minotaur)
WEDNESDAY November 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Life and Labors of Theseus • Theseus and Ariadne 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ANTH 54-57 (Apollodorus N) • ANTH 277-281 (1st ed. 318-322) (<i>Heroides</i> 10)
FRIDAY December 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orpheus and Eurydice • Orpheus' Journey to the Underworld 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MET 382-386 • MET 422-426 • ANTH 389-391 (1st ed. 430-432) (Vergil, <i>Georgics</i> 4.453-527)
MONDAY December 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trojan Hero, Roman Founder: Aeneas • Rome's Foundation Mythology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ANTH 380-389 (1st ed. 421-430) (Vergil, <i>Aeneid</i> 6.237-755) • MET 577-579 (Aeneas) • MET 587-591 (Romulus)
EXAM PERIOD	<u>FINAL EXAM</u> <u>Monday, December 11, 12-3 PM</u>	

Note: The topics for class and reading assignments are subject to change at the professor's discretion. Substantive changes will be announced in class and posted on the course website.