

Classical Mythology Exam Review

Dr. Conor Whately

The exam is to be held on Wednesday, December 5, at 1:30-4:30pm, in 4M31.

- The first section of the exam will consist of a host of short answer questions for which you might, for example, have to match points from two columns, or answer multiple choice questions. This will occupy 40% of the exam.
- The second section of the exam will consist of quotations and images, ancient and modern, which will test your basic familiarity of the myths and texts we have covered. You will have to identify the various references included in the passages/images, and in some cases explain them. This will occupy 40% of the exam.
- The third section of the exam will consist of long answer questions. You might, for example, be given a scenario and be asked to find a solution using examples from myth. This will occupy 20% of the exam.

NOTE:

- Ultimately, the exam is not cumulative, as you can see below
- use your lecture notes and the slides
- use theoi.com to fill in the pieces
- be prepared to be asked about the course readings (Homer's *Odyssey*, Ovid's *Metamorphoses*)

Select Key Topics

Dionysus

THE GOD DIONYSUS	
Parents	Zeus and Semele
Wife	Ariadne
God of	Wine, festivity, madness
Home	Mount Olympus
Symbol	Thyrsus (pine-cone staff)
Sacred Animals	Panther, bull, serpent
Sacred Plants	Grapevine, ivy, bindweed
Retinue	Silenus, Satyrs, Maenads
Other Names	Bacchus, Lyaeus
Roman Name	Liber

Myth of Dionysus' birth, his historical origins, his nature, and his worship - Semele

- Olympian god of wine, vegetation, pleasure, festivity, madness and wild frenzy.
- Depicted as either an older, bearded god or an effeminate, long-haired youth.
- His attributes included the thyrsos (a pine-cone tipped staff), a drinking cup and a crown of ivy.
- Usually accompanied by a troop of Satyrs and Mainades (wild female devotees).
- Dionysos was a son of Zeus and the princess Semele of Thebes.
- Semele was the daughter of Cadmus.
- During the course of her pregnancy, the god's jealous wife Hera tricked Semele into asking Zeus to appear before her in his full glory.
- Bound by oath, the god was forced to comply and she was consumed by the heat of his lightning-bolts.
- Zeus recovered their unborn child from her body, sewed him up in his own thigh, and carried him to term.
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Dionysus and his worship in Euripides' Bacchae

- something here. ### Dionysus & Apollo
- more of something here. ### Dionysus & Ariadne ### Midas, Silenus, the Golden Touch ### Pan and Echo ### Echo & Narcissus

Artemis

births of Artemis and Apollo

Niobe & her children

Actaeon

Callisto & Arcas

Orion

character, appearance, and origins of Artemis

Artemis vs. Aphrodite in Euripides' Hippolytus.

Apollo

Apollo & Delphi

Pythia

Cassandra

Daphne

Coronis

a. Asclepius

Alcestis of Euripides

Apollo and Marsyas

Apollo and Pan

Nature of Apollo

Underworld

Ovid's Metamorphoses

Orpheus & Eurydice

Accounts of the underworld (Homer, Vergil, Plato)

The sinners

Geography – Tartarus, Elysian fields

Heroes/Sagas

Jason & Medea

Golden Fleece

Jason, Aeson, & Pelias

Voyage of the Argonauts

Hypsipyle, Harpies, clashing rocks, etc.

Colchis – deeds & the dragon/serpent

The return

Medea scorned

Heracles

Amphitryon, Alcmena, Zeus

Madness of Heracles

12 labours/athloi

Heracles the avenger

The death of Heracles – Nessus, Deianira, Iole

Theseus

Labours of Theseus (6)

Bull of Marathon

Pasiphae

King Minos & the Minotaur

Daedalus & Icarus

Theseus & Ariadne

Other myths of Theseus

Oedipus & Thebes

4

Oedipus, Laius, Jocasta/Iocasta

The Sphinx & the riddle

Antigone