SYLLABUS

Subject & Crs #: HRS 119  
Course Title: Classical Mythology

Term & Year: Spring 2015  
Class Meeting Time: M/W 12:00-1:15 pm

Location: MND 4004

Instructor: Toby Terrell, Ph.D

Email: Toby.Terrell@csus.edu

Office Hours: MW, 1:15 – 1:45 pm

Office: MND 2022

Course Description:
This is a study of Greek and Roman myths and hero tales and their place in the literature and art of Western civilization. Also provides an introduction to the general nature and function of myth. Fulfills Area C2 of the CSUS General Education requirements.

Course Content:
Readings in the course include selections from Homer’s *Iliad* and *Odyssey*, *The Homeric Hymns*, Hesiod’s *Theogony* and *Works and Days*, as well as plays by Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides, along with selections from Virgil’s *Aeneid* and Ovid’s *Metamorphoses*. We will also look at content from modern literature, film, and music utilizing themes of classical mythology.

Course Learning Objectives:
The course is designed as an introductory survey of classical mythology. Its major objective is to advance significantly the student’s knowledge of this subject matter, which remains a vital part of our shared cultural vocabulary and, due to the very nature of myth, challenges us to consider the universal concerns and perspectives of the human condition.

In addition, specific course objectives include: an enhanced ability to understand classical mythology in its historical context, and to identify and analyze the impact of myth on the art and architecture of ancient Greece and Rome, as well as on modern culture; the development of analytical reading and oral communication skills through reading and discussion of a great variety of literature; and the improvement of writing skills, through completion of assigned essays.

Instructional Strategies:
This course will be primarily a combination of lecture, readings and class discussion. There will also be consideration of excerpts from modern film, music, and literature.

Writing Requirements and Testing:
One 5-6 page term paper is required for this class. There will also be four quizzes, one midterm and a final exam.

Methods of Assessing Student Outcomes and Grading Policy:
- 50 points attendance and participation in class
- 200 points quizzes
- 300 points midterm
- 150 points term paper
- 300 points final exam

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>925-1,000</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>900-924</td>
<td>A-</td>
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<tr>
<td>875-899</td>
<td>B+</td>
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<tr>
<td>825-874</td>
<td>B</td>
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Required Texts and Materials:
*Classical Mythology: Images and Insights*, Harris & Platzner, 6th Edition
Other supplementary materials may be assigned as we go along

Class Schedule:
(All readings from Harris & Platzner, *Classical Mythology*)
Please Note: All assignments should be completed by the day listed (except for the first class).
Please bring relevant text to each meeting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignment Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>Introduction to Classical Mythology</td>
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<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>Introductory</td>
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<td>M</td>
<td>The Nature of Myth: Background to Classical Mythology</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
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<td>M</td>
<td>Approaches to the Study of Myth</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
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<td>W</td>
<td>The Cosmos and the Divine Realm</td>
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<td>M</td>
<td>Creation Stories</td>
<td>Chapter 3 (including <em>Theogony</em>, on pp. 88-105)</td>
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<td>M</td>
<td>Goddess Worship</td>
<td>Chapter 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>The Olympic Pantheon I</td>
<td>Chapter 6, pp. 168-85</td>
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<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>The Olympic Pantheon II</td>
<td>Chapter 6, pp. 185-204</td>
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<td>W</td>
<td>Apollo</td>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>Quiz: Chaps 1-3, 5 &amp; 6</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>Prometheus and the Divine/Human Rift</td>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
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<td>M</td>
<td>The Afterlife</td>
<td>Chapter 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>The Hero</td>
<td>Chapter 10</td>
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M 3/09 Heroines Quiz: Chaps 4, 7-10

The Homeric Epics
W 3/11 Homer and the Epic: Introduction to the Iliad Chapter 12, pp. 331-51

M 3/16 Homer’s Iliad (cont’d) Chapter 12, pp. 352-389
W 3/18 Homer’s Iliad (cont’d) Chapter 12, pp. 390-423

3/23 – 29 Spring Break!

M 3/30 Midterm Exam
W 4/01 Introduction to the Odyssey Chapter 13, pp. 424-44
Term Paper assigned

M 4/06 Homer’s Odyssey (cont’d) Chapter 13, pp. 445-76

Mythology in Tragic Drama
W 4/08 Quiz: Chaps 11-13
Introduction to Greek Drama Chapter 14, pp. 505-27

M 4/13 Euripides’ Bacchae Chapter 14, pp. 528-82
W 4/15 The House of Atreus: Aeschylus’ Oresteia Chapter 15, pp. 583-632

M 4/20 The Oresteia (cont’d) Chapter 15, pp. 633-58
W 4/22 The Tragic House of Laius: Sophocles’ Oedipus Cycle; Oedipus Rex Chapter 16, pp. 659-727

M 4/27 Sophocles’ Antigone Chapter 16, pp. 728-65
W 4/29 Euripides’ Medea
Term Paper due

Roman Mythology
M 5/04 The Roman World Quiz: Chaps 14-17
Chapter 18

W 5/06 Vergil’s Aeneid Chapter 19

M 5/11 Ovid’s Metamorphoses Chapter 20
W 5/13 Mythology in Literature and the Arts Review
Chapter 21

W 5/20 FINAL EXAM (10:15 am – 12:15 pm)

Classroom Etiquette:
- Something to drink and quiet snacks are allowed in the classroom, but NOT full meals. Please remember that the classroom is not a cafeteria.
- Please turn your cellphone OFF before you enter the classroom. Use of cell phones for any purpose is not allowed. This includes but is not limited to sending or receiving calls, texting, tweeting, FaceBook-ing, instant messaging, email, and so on.
If you must leave the classroom during class, please do so in the most unobtrusive manner. Also, it is always best NOT to cross the front of the classroom during lectures or discussion. If you know that you must leave class early, please sit near the door. I would also appreciate if you would notify me in advance.

Sleeping in class is not allowed. If you need to catch up on your sleep, you will be asked to do so elsewhere.

Academic Dishonesty (Plagiarism):
Committing acts of plagiarism will result in a grade of zero (0) for the assignment involved. Examples of academic dishonesty include, but are not limited to:

- Plagiarism, which is knowingly presenting borrowed wording, ideas, opinions, visual media (photos, videos, etc.) or data as if it were one’s own original creation
- Submitting purchased, commercially prepared papers
- Fabricating information or sources
- Using forbidden notes or other sources of information on examinations
- Use of any unauthorized electronic device during an examination
- Any type of assistance, oral, visual or written, given by one student to another during a project or examination without the approval of the instructor.

Compliance with rules prohibiting cheating and plagiarism along with principles of courteous conduct are required. For the University’s policy on plagiarism, see: [http://library.csus.edu/content2.asp?pageID=353](http://library.csus.edu/content2.asp?pageID=353).

Special Accommodations:
If you have a disability and require accommodations, you need to provide disability documentation to SSWD, Lassen Hall 1008; 278-6955. Please discuss your accommodation needs with the instructor after class or during office hours early in the semester.