

California State University, Sacramento
HRS 119, sec.1, Classical Mythology
Spring 2009

R. Diane Anderson, Instructor
Class Meets Monday and Wednesday 10:30 to 11:45 AM SHS 240
Office: MND 2030 Phone: (916) 278-6261
Office Hours: Monday 2:00-3:00 PM, Wednesday 9:00 –10:00 and by appointment
E-mail: andersonrd@csus.edu

- **Required Texts:**
Greene, David and Richmond Lattimore. *Greek Tragedies Vol. 2* ISBN: 0-226-30775-1
Homer. *The Odyssey of Homer*, Richmond Lattimore. Trans. ISBN: 0-06090479-8
The Homeric Hymns. Charles Boer, Trans. ISBN: 0-88214-210-0
Ovid. *Metamorphoses*, Trans. David Raeburn
Zimmerman, John E.. *The Dictionary of Classical Mythology*. ISBN: 0-553-25776-5
Greek Tragedies Vol. 2, Trans: Green and Lattimore ISBN: 0-226-30775-1
Three Plays of Euripides, Trans. Paul Rouche ISBN: 0-393-04382-7
- **Course Description:** A study of Greek and Roman myths and their place in the art and literature of Western civilization. Myths of deities, nature, and of heroes and heroines will be studied from various perspectives. This course satisfies **General Education Area C4**.
- **Course Content:** Readings in the course include selections from *The Homeric Hymns* and Ovid's *Metamorphosis* along the plays of Aeschylus, Sophocles and Euripides and Homer's entire *Odyssey*. The course will also include examples of sculpture and paintings, both ancient and modern, inspired by Greek and Roman myth and mythical characters. Students will give an oral presentation, two midterms and a final exam.
- **Writing Requirements:** Two papers are required for this class. The first paper is 3-4 pages in length and second, 5-6 pages in length.
- **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: The development of analytical reading and oral communication skills through reading and discussion of a great variety of literature. These exercise will enhance the 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 . Virtually all aspects of the course will require students to use and enhance critical reasoning skills.

LISTPROC

Every student is **REQUIRED** to join the class discussion and communication e-mail list, *listproc*, through SaLink. You have **ONE WEEK** to subscribe to the list. After **ONE WEEK**, not having joined will be reflected in your Participation Grade.

Instructions for joining LISTPROC: HRS119S1-L is a discussion list for students enrolled in Classical Mythology, Section 1. It is intended to provide a forum for discussion of the information and ideas associated with Classical Mythology and provides the sole means by which students will receive important class "handouts". It also serves as a pathway by which students can communicate with each other and with the professor.

To subscribe to this list, send an e-mail message to:

LISTPROC@CSUS.EDU

With the two-line message:

SUBSCRIBE HRS119S1-L firstname lastname
END

For example, Jane Smith would send the following message to LISTPROC@CSUS.EDU:

SUBSCRIBE HRS119S1-L Jane Smith
END

Further information can be obtained by contacting the list owner, Professor R Diane Anderson at andersonrd@csus.edu.

*** FOR GENERAL NOTES ON FORMAL WRITING ASSIGNMENTS, PLEASE SEE SEPARATE HANDOUT. ***

LAPTOP POLICY: OP Many discussions have included both the positive values and the negative distractions of using laptop computers in the classroom. The debate continues and still there is no consensus. Therefore each instructor must make his or her own policy. I will decide about the use of laptops in my classroom on a case-by-case basis and only with my personal approval. You must see me about using your laptop in class and make your case for permission to do so.

ATTENDENCE AND TARDY POLICY: In addition to written work, all students are expected to attend all sessions of the class, prepared to discuss the reading assignment for the day. It is necessary, both for your own education and as a courtesy to the other members of the class, to attend regularly and punctually. An attendance sheet will be distributed for your signature at each class meeting. It is your responsibility to sign this sheet. More than one absence without good cause as well as chronic tardiness will adversely affect your participation grade. When applicable, I will implement the *Department Attendance Policy*.



Grading:

Preparation & Participation	40 points	A = 100-93	C = 76-73
Midterm #1	50 points	A- = 92-90	C- = 72-70
Midterm #2	50 points	B+= 89-87	D+= 69-67
Paper #1	50 points	B = 86-83	D = 66-62
Paper #2	60 points	B- = 82-80	D- = 62-60
Oral Report	50 points	C+= 79-77	F = 59 & below
<u>Final Exam</u>	<u>60 points</u>		
Total Possible	360 points		

Schedule and Assignments:

****** THIS SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO MINOR ADJUSTMENTS WITH APPROPRIATE PRIOR NOTICE ******

Week 1

- Mon/Jan 26 Introduction to Classical Mythology
- Wed/Jan 28 Myth Making, Theory and Meaning
Sources of Myth
Myth Religion and Philosophy

Week 2

Mon/Feb 2

Greek Creation Stories

Readings: Hesiod's *Theogony*, pp.3-33

Homeric Hymns (HH), pp. 1-2

Readings: Dictionary of Classical Mythology (DCM),

Entries for the following: *Chaos (Chasm)*, *Gaia*, *Tartarus*, *Eros*,
Uranus, *Titans*, *Cyclopes*, *Hecatonchires*, *Cronus (Kronus)*, *Rhea*, *Erinyes*

Wed/Feb 4

Greek Creation cont., Roman Creation Story

Readings: *Homer Hymns (HH)*, Hymn to Gaia, the Mother of All, Hymn to the
Mother of the Gods, Ovid's *Metamorphoses (META)* pp.5-9

Week 3

Mon/Feb 9

Creation of Humankind

Readings: Hesiod's *Theogony*, Introduction, pp. mid xiii-xxi

Hesiod's *Works and Days* pp. 37-mid 40

DCM: *Pandora*, *Prometheus*, *Epimetheus*

META:5-9 (reread)

Wed/Feb 11

Deterioration and Destruction of Humankind

Readings: *Works and Days*, pp. mid 40-42

META pp.12-25 (The Giants, Lycaon, The Flood, Deucalion & Pyrrha)

Week 4

Mon/Feb 16

The Nature of Divinity

Sky and Earth: Zeus/Jupiter and Hera/Juno

Readings: HH *Hera*, *Zeus*, *Hymn to the son of Kronos*, *Hera*, *Callisto*, *Europa*, *Semele*;

META *Io*, *Calisto*, *Europa*, *Semels*, *Ganymede*

DMC *Zeus*, *Jupiter*, *Hera*, *Juno*

Wed/Feb 18

Children of Zeus/Jupiter

Readings: HH *The Muses*; DCM: *Dionysus*, *Eileithyia*, *Hebe*, *the Musae (Muses)*

Week 5

Mon/Feb 23

MIDTERM EXAM #1

Midterm: 30 minutes

Lecture following: 45 minutes

Children of Zeus

DCM: *The Muses*, *Dionysus*, *Eileithyia*, *Hebe*

Wed/Feb 25

Crafts and Wisdom: Athena/Minerva and Hephaestus/Vulcan

Readings: HH *Hephaistos*, *Athena*; META: *Arachne*

DCM: *Athena*, *Minerva*, *Tritogeneia*, *Hephaestus*, *Vulcan*

Week 6

Mon/Mar 2

Love and War: Aphrodite/Venus and Ares/Mars

Readings: HH *Aphrodite*, *Ares*; META *Venus & Mars*, *Venus & Adonis*

DCM: *Aphrodite*, *Venus*, *Ares*, *Mars*

Wed/Mar 4 **The Sea and the Underworld**
Readings: HH *Poseidon*; META *Peleus and Thetis*
DCM: *Poseidon, Neptune, Scylla (1), Charybdis, Thetis, Sirens, Hades, Charon, Cerebus, Lethe, Styx*

Week 7

Mon/Mar 9 **Public Space and Private Space:** Hestia/Vesta and Hermes/Mercury
Readings: HH *Hestia, Hermes, Pan*; META Pan and Synchron;
DCM: *Hestia, Vesta, Hermes, Mercury*

Wed/Mar 11 **Nature and Culture:** Artemis/Diana and Apollo
Readings: HH Artemis, Apollo, Asclepius; META Coronis, Actaeon, Niobe, Hyacinthus; DCM: *Artemis, Diana, Daphne, Apollo, Asclepius, Coronis, Pan*

Week 8

Mon/Mar 16 **PAPER #1 DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS**
Apollo cont.
The Worship of Apollo at Delphi Lecture
The Worship of Aesclepius at Epidaurus Lecture

Wed/ Mar 18 **Death and Rebirth: Demeter/Ceres and Dionysus/Bacchus**
Readings: HH 9-17, 89-136; DCM: *Ceres, Demeter, Persephone, Dionysus, Pentheus*
The Worship of Demeter and Persephone: The Mysteries at Eleusis
The Thesmophoria

Week 9

Mon/Mar 23 **BEGIN READING HOMER'S ODYSSEY**
PRESENTATION GROUPS AVAILABLE VIA LISTPROC
Heroes
The Primitive Hero: Heracles/Hercules
Readings: HH, Heracles; META 203-211 (Hercules); DCM: *Heracles, Heracles 12 Labors of Hercules, Alcmena*

Wed/Mar 25 **MIDTERM EXAM #2**
Midterm: 30 minutes
Lecture: 45 minutes
The Epic Hero: The Trojan War
Readings: META 283-300 (Achilles), DCM: *Achilles, Helen, Menelaus, Agamemnon, Paris, Hector*
Virgil's Heroic Aeneas
Readings Online: Outline of *The Aeneid*
luna.cas.usf.edu/~demilio/2211unit3/aendplot.htm

MARCH 30 –APRIL 5

SPRING BREAK

MARCH 30-APRIL 5

Week 10

Mon/Apr 6 **The Tragic Hero: Oedipus**

Wed/Apr 8 **Intro to the Odyssey: Lecture**
Readings: Introduction, pp. 1-24

Week 11

Mon/Apr 13 **Odyssey Presentations Begin Today**

Wed/Apr 15 **Odyssey Presentations cont.**

Week 12

Mon/ Apr 20 ***Odyssey Presentations cont.***

Wed/Apr 22 ***Odyssey Presentations cont.***

Week 13

Mon/Apr 27 **Greek Tragedy**
Readings: Green and Lattimore: Aeschylus' *The Libations Bearers*,
Sophocles' *Electra*

Wed/Apr 29 **Greek Tragedy cont.**
Readings: Green and Lattimore, Euripides' *Electra*

Week 14

Mon/May 4 **PAPER #2 DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS**
The Three Electra's cont.

Wed/May 6 **Euripides' *Medea***
Readings: Paul Ruche, Euripides' *Medea*

Week 15

Mon/May 11 Conclusions

Wed/May 13 Conclusions

FINAL EXAM

Monday, May 18
10:15 AM to 12:15 PM
SHS 240