SYLLABUS

Subject & Crs #: HRS 119
Course Title: Classical Mythology
Term & Year: Fall 2014
Class Meeting Time: Tu/Th 4:30-5:45 pm
Location: MND 1005
Instructor: Toby Terrell, Ph.D
Email: Toby.Terrell@csus.edu
Office Hours: Thurs, 3:30–4:30 pm
Office: (shared) MND 2012

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 C4 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, two midterms and a final exam.

Methods of Assessing Student Outcomes and Grading Policy:

- 50 points attendance and participation in class
- 200 points quizzes
- 350 points midterms
- 150 points paper
- 250 points final exam
# 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.

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignment Due</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Introduction to Classical Mythology</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tu</td>
<td>The Nature of Myth</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
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<td>Background to Classical Mythology</td>
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<td>Th</td>
<td>Approaches to the Study of Myth</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
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<td><strong>The Cosmos and the Divine Realm</strong></td>
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<td>Tu</td>
<td>Creation Stories</td>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
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<td>Th</td>
<td>Goddess Worship</td>
<td>Chapter 5</td>
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<td>Tu</td>
<td>The Olympic Pantheon I</td>
<td>Chapter 6, pp. 168-85</td>
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<tr>
<td>Th</td>
<td>The Olympic Pantheon II</td>
<td>Chapter 6, pp. 185-223</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tu</td>
<td><strong>Quiz: Chaps 1- 3, 5 &amp; 6</strong></td>
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<td>Apollo</td>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
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<td>Th</td>
<td>Dionysus</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
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<td><strong>The Human Condition</strong></td>
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<td>Tu</td>
<td>Prometheus and the Divine/Human Rift</td>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
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<td>The Afterlife</td>
<td>Chapter 9</td>
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Tu 10/07  The Hero  Chapter 10
Th 10/09  Heroines  Chapter 11

The Homeric Epics
Tu 10/14  Quiz: Chaps 4, 7-11
Homer and the Epic: Introduction  Chapter 12, pp. 331-51
To the *Iliad*
Th 10/16  Homer’s *Iliad* (cont’d)  Chapter 12, pp. 352-389
Tu 10/21  Homer’s *Iliad* (cont’d)  Chapter 12, pp. 390-423
Th 10/23  Midterm Exam

Mythology in Tragic Drama
Tu 10/28  Introduction to the *Odyssey*  Chapter 13, pp. 424-44
Term Paper assigned
Th 10/30  Homer’s *Odyssey* (cont’d)  Chapter 13, pp. 445-76

Tu 11/04  Quiz: Chaps 12 & 13
Introduction to Greek Drama  Chapter 14, pp. 505-27
Th 11/06  Euripides *Bacchae*  Chapter 14, pp. 528-82

Tu 11/11  Veterans’ Day - Holiday
Th 11/13  The House of Atreus: Aeschylus’ *Oresteia*  Chapter 15, pp. 583-632

Tu 11/18  The *Oresteia* (cont’d)  Chapter 15, pp. 633-58
Th 11/20  The Tragic House of Laius:
Sophocles’ Oedipus Cycle; *Oedipus Rex*  Chapter 16, pp. 659-727

Tu 11/25  Sophocles’ *Antigone*
Term Paper due  Chapter 16, pp. 728-65

(11/27-30)  Thanksgiving Holiday

Roman Mythology
Tu 12/04  Quiz: Chaps 14-17
The Roman World  Chapter 18
Th 12/06  Vergil’s *Aeneid*  Chapter 19
Tu 12/11  Ovid’s *Metamorphoses*  Chapter 20
Mythology in Literature and the Arts  Chapter 21

Th 12/18  FINAL EXAM  (3:00 – 5:00 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.

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.