

CLASSICS 220
INTRODUCTION TO CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY

BULLETIN INFORMATION

CLAS 220: Introduction to Classical Mythology (3 credit hours)

Course Description:

Major gods, goddesses, heroes, and heroines of classical mythology as portrayed in major literary works; the function of myth in society and its relevance to modern life.

SAMPLE COURSE OVERVIEW

TBA

ITEMIZED LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of Classics 220, students will be able to:

1. Identify and describe the fundamentals of Greek and Roman mythology.
2. Explain the role mythology played in early Greece and Rome.
3. Examine the ways in which different literary forms, such as epic and tragedy, represent classical myths.
4. Explain the different ways in which Greeks and Romans represented their myths in the historical contexts of Archaic and Classical Greece, and Imperial Rome.
5. Identify and describe the symbols and stories of the early Greeks and Romans and analyze how they are alluded to regularly in our daily lives.

SAMPLE REQUIRED TEXTS/SUGGESTED READINGS/MATERIALS

1. Euripides. 2002. *Four Plays: Medea, Hippolytus, Heracles, Bacchae*. Corr. Ed. Focus Publishing/R. Pullins Company.
2. Homer. 1998. *The Odyssey: The Fitzgerald Translation*. Farrar, Straus and Giroux.
3. Homer. 2004. *The Iliad: The Fitzgerald Translation*. First Edition. Farrar, Straus and Giroux.
4. Ovid. 2009. *Metamorphoses*. Reissue. Oxford University Press, USA.
5. Rayor, Diane. 2004. *The Homeric Hymns: A Translation, with Introduction and Notes*. 1st ed. University of California Press.
6. Sophocles. 2002. *Sophocles: The Theban Plays: Antigone/King Oidipous/Oidipous at Colonus*. Focus Publishing/R. Pullins Company.
7. Virgil. 1990. *The Aeneid*. Vintage.

SAMPLE ASSIGNMENTS AND/OR EXAMS

1. **Midterm exam #1, Midterm exam #2, Final exam**

- a. Exams: The two midterms and the final examination will test student's understanding of the mythological content of the literary works studied, as well as of key cultural concepts and aspects of the literary forms involved.

2. Paper

- a. Paper: The paper (3-5 pages) will compare the representation of a single myth in one Greek and one Roman text, or in one epic and one tragic play, or in one ancient and one modern work.

SAMPLE COURSE OUTLINE WITH TIMELINE OF TOPICS, READINGS/ASSIGNMENTS, EXAMS/PROJECTS

- Class 1:** What is Myth?
How is it represented in literature?
- Class 2:** Homeric Hymns: 1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 18-23, 26, 31
- Class 3:** Homeric Hymns: 2, 5, 6, 9-14, 24, 27-30, 32
- Class 4:** Philostratus, Heroikos Handout on Blackboard
- Class 5:** Introduction to Greek Epic; Homer, Iliad: 1-6
- Class 6:** Homer, Iliad: 7-12
- Class 7:** Homer, Iliad: 13-18
- Class 8:** Homer, Iliad: 19-24
- Class 9:** Homer, Odyssey: 1-8
- Class 10:** Homer, Odyssey: 9-16
- Class 11:** Homer, Odyssey: 17-24
- Class 12:** FIRST MIDTERM
- Class 13:** Introduction to Tragedy; Sophocles King Oidipous
- Class 14:** Sophocles: Oidipous at Colonnus
- Class 15:** Sophocles: Antigone
- Class 16:** Euripides: Medea

- Class 17:** Euripides: Hippolytus
- Class 18:** Euripides: Bacchae
- Class 19:** SECOND MIDTERM
- Class 20:** Introduction to Roman Epic;
Virgil, Aeneid: 1-3
- Class 21:** Virgil, Aeneid: 4-6
- Class 22:** Virgil, Aeneid: 7-9
- Class 23:** Virgil, Aeneid: 10-12
- Class 24:** Ovid, Metamorphoses: 1-3
- Class 25:** Ovid, Metamorphoses: 4-6
- Class 26:** Ovid, Metamorphoses: 7-9
- Class 27:** Ovid, Metamorphoses: 10-12
- Class 28:** Ovid, Metamorphoses: 13-15
PAPER DUE

FINAL EXAM according to University exam schedule