

instructor: **Dr. Robyn Le Blanc**

email: rleblan@uncg.edu

office: **MHRA 1110**

office hours:

Mon 9-10

Wed 1:30-3

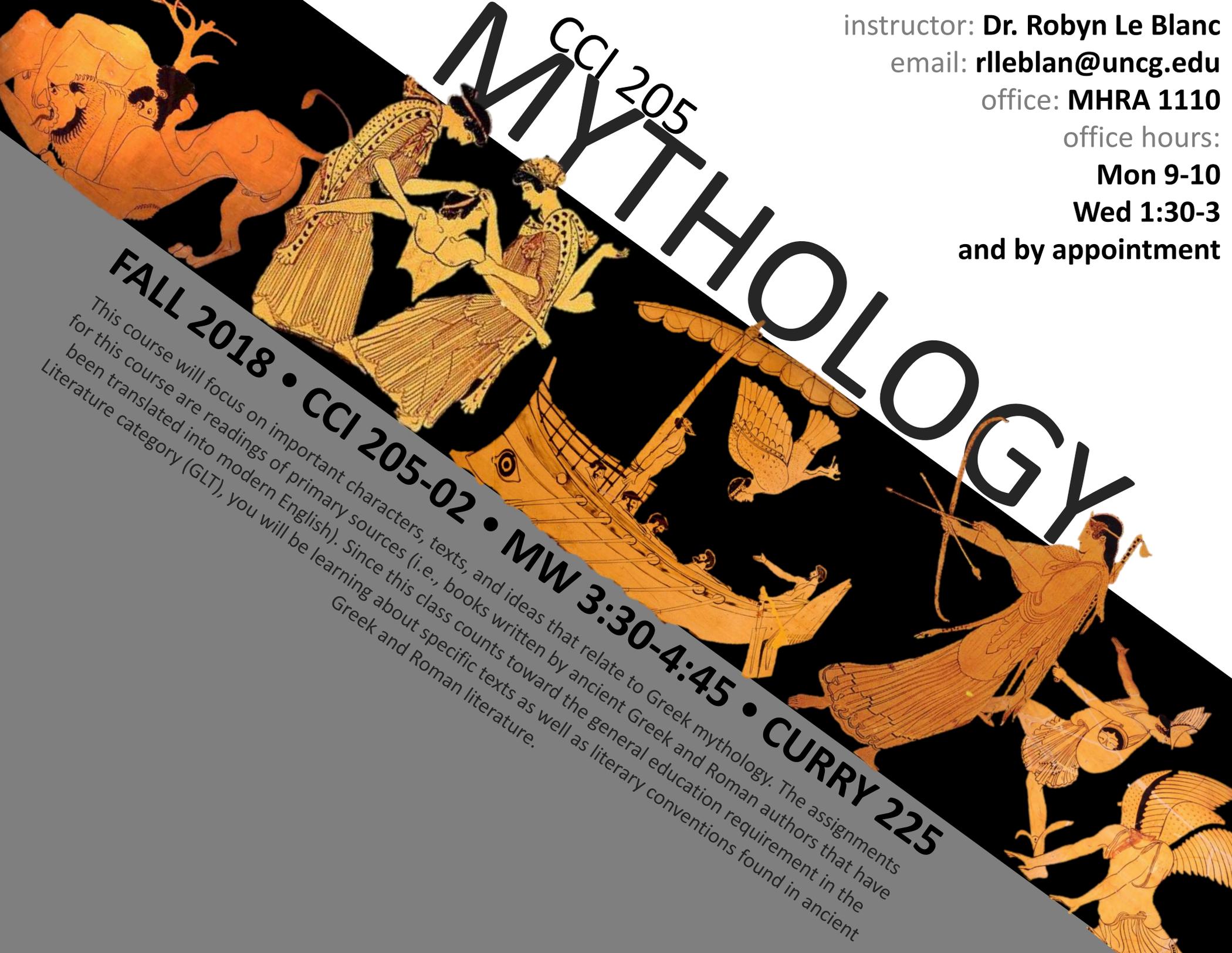
and by appointment

MYTHOLOGY

CCI 205

FALL 2018 • CCI 205-02 • MW 3:30-4:45 • CURRY 225

This course will focus on important characters, texts, and ideas that relate to Greek mythology. The assignments for this course are readings of primary sources (i.e., books written by ancient Greek and Roman authors that have been translated into modern English). Since this class counts toward the general education requirement in the Literature category (GLT), you will be learning about specific texts as well as literary conventions found in ancient Greek and Roman literature.



STUDENT

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to:

- Describe the major characters, themes, and cycles of Greek myth (SLO 1-3, 7)
- Identify some of the major works of Greek and Roman literature dealing with Greek myth (SLO 5)
- Describe the literary conventions belonging to different genres of literature dealing with Greek myth (SLO 4-6)
- Analyze the social, cultural, political, and/or religious dimensions and contexts of Greek mythological stories and traditions (SLO 1-3, 7)

This course belongs to the General Education curriculum of UNCG, fulfilling the Literature (GLT) category, as well as carrying the Global (GL) marker. The first three Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) are for GL courses, and the last four are GLT.

1. Find, interpret and evaluate information on diverse cultures.
2. Describe interconnections among regions of the world. (Must include substantial focus on at least one culture, nation, or sub-nationality beyond Great Britain and North America).
3. Use diverse cultural frames of reference and alternative perspectives to analyze issues.
4. Demonstrate the reading skill required for the study of literary texts.
5. Identify and/or describe some of the varied characteristics of literary texts.
6. Demonstrate orally, in writing or by some other means a fundamental ability to use some of the techniques and/or methods of literary analysis.
7. Identify and/or describe some of the various social, historical, cultural and/or theoretical contexts in which literary texts have been written and interpreted.

GRADED ASSIGNMENTS

20%	Online Quizzes
20%	Class Assignments & Activities (in & outside of class)
20%	Exam #1
20%	Exam #2
20%	Exam #3

REQUIRED TEXTS

- 1 **Hesiod's *Theogony*** (+ selections from *Works and Days*) [Caldwell translation]
- 2 ***The Homeric Hymns*** [Shelmerdine translation]
- 3 **Euripides' *Medea, Hippolytus, Heracles, Bacchae*** [Esposito translation]
- 4 **Homer's *Odyssey*** [Fagles translation]
- 5 **Additional readings** posted to Canvas



These textbooks listed are all required for this course. They are available at the bookstore in the EUC. Please make sure to purchase the correct translations—this is very important! Translations sometimes vary wildly, and you do not want to be lost when we refer to specific lines and passages in class.

EXAMS

Three multiple-choice exams of 80 questions, each focused on 1/3 of the class material. Question types include regular multiple-choice questions, questions about passages, close readings of passages, comparison of themes, events or characters within and between myths, questions and identifications about images, identification of places on a map of Greece. Each exam will include a section where you will identify figures in images of ancient art that you have not seen before, and a section where you will answer questions about a passage (included on the exam) containing a myth that we did not go over in class. Each test will have **five** cumulative questions, asking you to compare themes or characters to myths or stories read earlier in class. Please note that **study guides are your responsibility**. Identifying what themes and characters are important is part of studying and learning! Use the weekly term lists, your notes, powerpoints, and a study buddy, and start studying early!

CLASS ACTIVITIES

Around 10 times over the course of the semester I will administer unannounced graded activities, usually in-class. These will consist of short essays, practice close readings of ancient texts, or image quizzes. Some of these may be group or paired activities. Because these unannounced activities are based on material discussed in class or in groups, there will be **NO MAKEUP ASSIGNMENTS FOR ANY REASON**. I will drop your two lowest assignment grades at the end of the semester. These activities are graded on a 5-point scale based on completeness, effort to address the prompt thoughtfully, and overall quality of the reasoning and analysis. 5=excellent, 4=good, 3=satisfactory, 2=needs improvement, 1=poor.

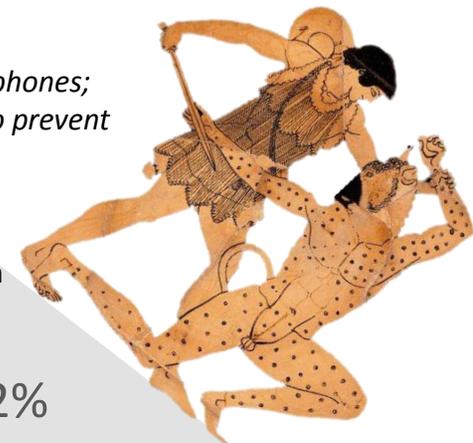
Please note that these are based on texts, passages, or themes I want us to focus on, and will not necessarily be spaced out equally over the semester.

ONLINE QUIZZES

12 weekly quizzes testing reading comprehension. These quizzes will be taken at home on Canvas, and consist of ~10 (usually) multiple-choice questions. They will be timed for 15 minutes, but you will have two chances to take each quiz. The quizzes are open-note and open-book. The quizzes are due every Wednesday by 3:00pm. **They will cover all the reading for that week**. The quiz will open on the previous Wednesday at 5pm, and close on Wednesday at 3:00pm (this gives you almost a week to take the quiz). I will drop your two lowest grades at the end of the semester. There are **NO MAKEUP QUIZZES FOR ANY REASONS, INCLUDING TECHNICAL PROBLEMS OR ABSENCES**.

Please note that the quiz function on Canvas does not work consistently on phones; schedule time to take the quizzes via a laptop, tablet or desktop computer to prevent technical problems.

Don't forget to take your reading quiz every week! It is good practice to take the reading quiz at the same time every week, and/or to set an alarm on your phone a few days in advance to prompt you to take the quiz.



GRADING SCALE

	A	100-93%	A-	90-92%		
B+		89-87%	B	86-83%	B-	82-80%
C+		79-77%	C	76-73%	C-	72-70%
D+		69-67%	D	66-63%	D-	62-60%
					F	below 60%

HOW TO SUCCEED

1. **Come to class!** You'll get some necessary historical and cultural context for the readings, and the exams will be based on both the reading and the themes and concepts discussed while in class.
2. **Do the readings.** You should expect to spend about 1-2 hours reading for each class meeting (so 2-4 hours of reading per week). Some readings are longer, denser, or more complex than others. Please try to read carefully and thoughtfully. If you already know the myth, still do the reading—I reread the *Odyssey* every time I teach it (so I'm well into double-digits now), and I still find something new or surprising or provoking each time I read it.
3. **Take good notes.** Do not write down everything I say. An essential learning skill is reframing concepts in your own words, and pulling out the most relevant pieces of information from a larger body of work (i.e. a text or lecture). That said, be clever! Print out the powerpoints and take notes on them!
4. **Check Canvas and your email daily**, so you don't miss announcements or changes.
5. **Use the term lists, powerpoints, and material on Canvas.**
6. **Have fun!**

COURSE POLICIES

ACTIVITIES & QUIZZES NOTE: Activities and online quizzes each count for 20% of your final grade in the course. Please note that, depending on the number of each assigned, missing more than 2 (which will be dropped at the end of the semester in any case) activities or quizzes may result in your grade for that assignment group dropping several % points, impacting negatively your overall course grade. Missing an extra quiz—or doing poorly on more than 2 assignments—is not the end of the world, but please be aware about the cumulative effect of too many missing or low scores in each grading area! For example, each quiz is worth 10 points; with two dropped quizzes, the raw # of points for that section at the end of the semester is 100. Missing an additional quiz will earn you a 90% for that assignment group; missing two additional quizzes will drop you to an 80%. Please keep this in mind when considering your ability to attend and complete the work at the beginning of the semester!

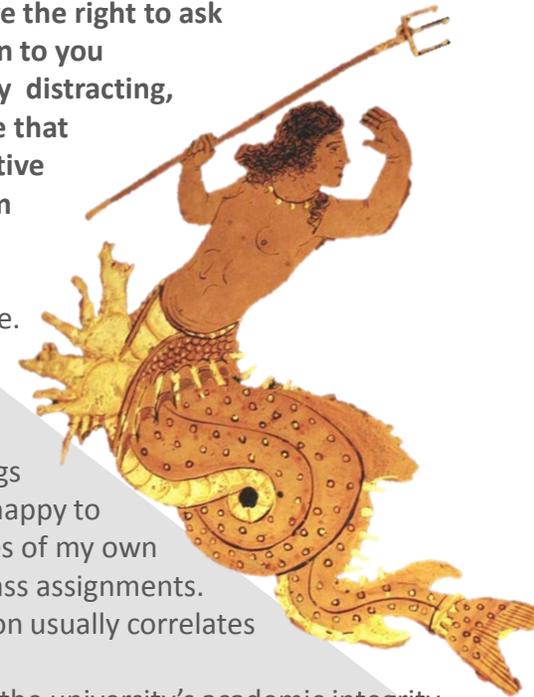
GRADES: I am happy to discuss your grades with you. **However, university policy prohibits discussions of grades via email, and so you will have to schedule an appointment to come to my office to discuss any issues or questions you might have.** Grades will be posted on Canvas throughout the semester so that you may keep track of your performance in the class. **My “rounding” policy is as follows: I will only take into account the first number after the decimal, i.e. 89.6 will be rounded up to a 90% (A-), but an 89.59 will be a B+.** If I make a calculation error I'm more than happy to fix it., but I do not negotiate grades .

ELECTRONICS: Laptops and tablets use is allowed only for those seated in the first two or last two rows of the classroom. **If you use a laptop/tablet elsewhere, I will ask (and expect you) to move. Please stick to completing coursework only. I reserve the right to ask you to put away laptops and tablets if I deem they are a distraction to you and/or your classmates around you. Use of cellphones is incredibly distracting, and they should be, by default, put away during class. Please note that inappropriate use of technology falls under the University's disruptive student policy. You may be asked to leave class or be removed from the class entirely for repeated failure to adhere to these policies.**

IN-CLASS: Please show up on time and stay until class is over. If you really must leave before class is done, please let me know in advance. While in class, please pay attention to the lecture, engage with the material, with me, and with your classmates, and be respectful of everyone around you, particularly when discussing sensitive topics.

MISSING CLASS: If you miss class please make sure to do the readings and consult the powerpoint on Canvas. Ask a friend for notes. I am happy to answer specific questions about the material, but I do not have notes of my own to share. Please remember that there are no make-ups for any in-class assignments. Try to attend regularly. Failure to regularly attend and to pay attention usually correlates to a lower grade in the course.

RECORDING + ONLINE POSTING: It is against university policies and the university's academic integrity policy to offer notes or course material online for sale. Recording lecture is prohibited unless you have a documented need with documentation from OARS.



UNIVERSITY POLICIES

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

Students requesting accommodations based on a disability must be registered with the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services (OARS) in 215 Elliott University Center (<http://ods.dept.uncg.edu/>; email: oars@uncg.edu). If you have a documented disability and want to discuss academic accommodations, please talk with me before the end of the second week.

RELIGIOUS DAYS

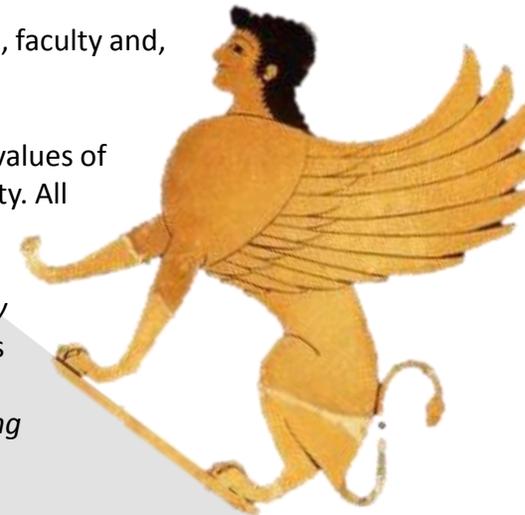
State law allows students to have up to two absences for religious reasons per academic year and to be allowed to make up work missed. If this applies to you, you must notify me two weeks in advance and make arrangements to make up missed work at that time. I reserve the right to require you to do this work before your absence.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

(from the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities website): “Academic integrity is founded upon and encompasses the following five values: *honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility*. Supporting and affirming these values is essential to promoting and maintaining a high level of academic integrity. Each member of the academic community must stand accountable for his or her actions. As a result, a community develops in which students learn the responsibilities of citizenship and how to contribute honorably to their professions. If knowledge is to be gained and properly evaluated, it must be pursued under conditions free from dishonesty. Deceit and misrepresentations are incompatible with the fundamental activity of this academic institution and shall not be tolerated. Members of the UNCG community are expected to foster in their own work the spirit of academic honesty and not to tolerate its abuse by others. Responsibility for academic integrity lies primarily with individual students and faculty members of this community. A violation of academic integrity is an act harmful to all students, faculty and, ultimately, the University.

The UNCG community subscribes to the following fundamental values of academic integrity: honesty; trust; fairness; respect; responsibility. All violations of the *Policy* are violations of the value of honesty but may also create questions related to trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. The violations of the *Academic Integrity Policy* listed below are typical, but not exhaustive, examples of the acts that constitute breaches of the *Policy*.” *These include: cheating, plagiarism, misuse of academic resources, falsification, facilitating academic dishonesty, and unauthorized behavior.*

Sanctions for violating this policy may include grade-related penalties, completion of university-created educational experiences, suspension, expulsion, and/or a violation appearing on the student’s permanent record



LIFE HAPPENS

Life happens. Please be in touch ASAP if something is preventing you from coming to class regularly, or from completing the work. I can connect you to Resources for support on campus, and we can brainstorm ways to help you get through the semester. Please, please, please—do not disappear or wait until the end of the semester to say something. I will try my best to work with you.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

The stories and texts we’ll be reading this semester are translations of Greek and Latin texts written in the ancient world. We are exploring mythology through these primary sources instead of through modern summaries and syntheses of ancient traditions (i.e. Edith Hamilton’s *Mythology*). Be prepared to read plays and poems, and for different texts to adopt different perspectives, timelines, and views on gods and heroes. These primary sources can be challenging at first, but the more you engage with them, the easier they will be to approach and understand. Many of these texts were meant to be heard or performed rather than read, and some of the difficulties in understanding them arise from the way we consume them. We’ll discuss this further, but be aware! Please also be aware of the fact that Greek myths deal extensively with intense and sensitive themes, topics, and events.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Please note that I retain the right to modify this syllabus and course assignments at any time. Changes will be announced in class, and via Canvas.

SECTION ONE: BEGINNINGS, GODS, HUMANS

Wednesday, August 14: Introduction to the Class (Or, the One Where You Find Out What You're Getting Into)

Reading: Look over syllabus; take syllabus quiz!

Monday, August 20: Sources: Art and Literature (Or, the One With Santa Claus)

Reading: *Homeric Hymn to Athena* #11 (pp.147)

Hesiod *Theogony* lines 1-103

Selections of mythological stories (PDF on Canvas)

Wednesday, August 22: *Theogony* (Or, the One Where Everyone Hates Their Dad) [QUIZ DUE @ 3pm]

Reading: Background on Hesiod (PDF on Canvas)

Hesiod *Theogony* lines 1-506

Homeric Hymn to Earth #30 (pp.162)

Monday, August 27: *Theogony* (Or, the One Where Gaia is Shady) [SYLLABUS QUIZ DUE @ 3PM]

Reading: Hesiod *Theogony* lines 617-1020

Hesiod *Theogony* lines 507-569

Hesiod *Works and Days* lines 1-52 (end of the Hesiod book)

Wednesday, August 29: More Divine Beginnings (Hermes, Dionysos, Athena, Apollo) (Or, the One With the Ancient Fart Joke)

[QUIZ DUE @ 3pm]

Reading: *Homeric Hymn to Hermes* #4 (pp.91-122)

Homeric Hymn to Dionysos #1 (pp.27-28)

Homeric Hymn to Apollo #3 (pp.62-69 ONLY)

Monday, September 3: LABOR DAY (NO CLASSES)

Wednesday, September 5: Crisis and Conflict Among the Gods (Demeter; Hephaestus and Hera; Aphrodite, Ares, and Hephaestus) (Or, the One With the Seasons) [GODS/METHODS QUIZZES DUE @ 3PM]

Reading: *Homeric Hymn to Demeter* #2 (pp.33-58)

Odyssey Book 8, lines 300-410

Monday, September 10: Prometheus, Pandora, and Humans (Or, the One Where Zeus Hates Prometheus, and Prometheus Is a Good Guy Anyway)

Reading:

Hesiod *Theogony* lines 507-616

Hesiod *Works and Days* lines 1-201

Ovid Background (PDF on Canvas)

The story of Deucalion & Pyrrha (Ovid

Metamorphoses, Bk 1, lines 252-415 (PDF on Canvas)

Wednesday, September 12: Humans and Gods (Io, Anchises, Dionysos & Pirates, Hippolytus) (Or, the One With All the Transformations) [QUIZ DUE @ 3pm]

Reading: *Homeric Hymn to Dionysos* #7 (pp.141-143)

The Story of Io (Ovid *Met.* Bk 1, lines 568-747)

Homeric Hymn to Aphrodite #5 (pp.123-139)

Euripides' *Hippolytus*, lines 1-120 ONLY (pp.93-98)

Monday, September 17: Hubris and Mortal Limits (Arachne, Niobe, Actaeon, Phaethon) (Or, the One With All the Hubris)

Reading: The Story of Arachne (Ovid *Met.* Bk. 6, lines 1-145)

The Story of Niobe (Ovid *Met.* Bk. 16, lines 146-312)

The Story of Actaeon (Ovid *Met.* Bk. 3, lines 138-252)

The Story of Phaethon (Ovid *Met.* Bk. 1-2, lines 747-779, 1-331)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19: EXAM #1

SECTION TWO: HEROES

Monday, September 24: Bacchae (Or, the One Where Everyone is Drunk?)

Reading: Background on Euripides & Greek Plays (PDF on Canvas)

Euripides' *Bacchae* lines 1-575

Wednesday, September 26: Bacchae (Or, the One With All the Bad Decisions) [QUIZ DUE @ 3pm]

Reading: Euripides' *Bacchae* lines 575-end

Monday, October 1: Perseus, Oedipus, Theseus (Or, the One Where She's Your Mom, Bro)

Reading: Selections from Apollodorus' *Bibliotheca* (PDF on Canvas)

Wednesday, October 3: Herakles' Labors (Or, the One Where Eurystheus Hides in a Vase) [QUIZ DUE @ 3pm]

Reading: Selections from Apollodorus on the labors of Herakles (PDF)

COURSE SCHEDULE

Monday, October 8: FALL BREAK (NO CLASSES)

Wednesday, October 10: More Herakles; the Argonauts (Or, the One Where Herakles is Inappropriately Lit)

Reading: Jason and the Argonauts background (link on Canvas)

Monday, October 15: Jason & Medea (Or, the One Where Medea Has No Chill)

Reading: Euripides' *Medea*, lines 1-627

Wednesday, October 17: Jason & Medea (Or, the One With the... Dragons?) [QUIZ DUE @ 3pm]

Reading: Euripides' *Medea*, lines 628-end

Monday, October 22: Trojan War and Homeric Heroes #1; Philoctetes (Or, the One With Six Degrees of Kevin Bacon-Achilles)

Reading: Background to the Trojan War handout (PDF on Canvas)
Background to *Philoctetes* (handout on Canvas)
Sophocles' *Philoctetes*, lines 1-729 (PDF on Canvas)

Wednesday, October 24: Trojan War and Homeric Heroes #2; Philoctetes (Or, the One Where Odysseus is the Worst?) [QUIZ DUE @ 3pm]

Reading: Sophocles' *Philoctetes*, lines 730-end

MONDAY, OCTOBER 29: EXAM #2



SECTION THREE: ODYSSEUS

Wednesday, October 31: The *Odyssey* (Or, the One Without Odysseus)

Reading: *Odyssey* Books 1-4

Monday, November 5: The *Odyssey* (Or, the One With A Complicated Man)

Reading: *Odyssey* Books 5-8

Wednesday, November 7: The *Odyssey* (Or, the One With Odysseus' Great Plan)

[QUIZ DUE @ 3pm]

Reading: *Odyssey* Books 9-10

Monday, November 12: The *Odyssey* (Or, the One Where Everyone Forgets Elpenor)

Reading: *Odyssey* Books 11-13

Wednesday, November 14: The *Odyssey* (Or, the One With All the Disguises)

[QUIZ DUE @ 3pm]

Reading: *Odyssey* Books 14, [skip 15], 16-18

Monday, November 19: The *Odyssey* (Or, the One Where He's BAAAACK)

Reading: *Odyssey* Books 19-21

Wednesday, November 21: THANKSGIVING BREAK (NO CLASSES)

Monday, November 26: The *Odyssey* (Or, the One With the Fake Ending?)

Reading: *Odyssey* Books 22-24

Wednesday, November 28: Wrap Up [LAST DAY OF CLASSES] (Or, the Last One)

[QUIZ DUE @ ON BOOKS 19-24, 3pm]

Reading: None

**FINAL EXAM: FRIDAY,
NOVEMBER 30, 3:30-4:45PM IN
OUR USUAL CLASSROOM**



QUIZ SCHEDULE

#	DUE DATE	READINGS COVERED
1	Wed Aug 22 @ 3pm	M: <i>Homeric Hymn to Athena #11</i> (pp.147); Hesiod <i>Theogony</i> lines 1-103; Selections of mythological stories (PDF on Canvas) W: Background on Hesiod (PDF on Canvas) ; Hesiod <i>Theogony</i> lines 1-506; <i>Homeric Hymn to Earth #30</i> (pp.162)
2	MON Aug 27 @ 3pm	Syllabus Quiz (based on the syllabus and powerpoint from the first day)
3	Wed Aug 29 @ 3pm	M: Hesiod <i>Theogony</i> lines 617-1020; Hesiod <i>Theogony</i> lines 507-569; Hesiod <i>Works and Days</i> lines 1-52 (end of the Hesiod book) W: <i>Homeric Hymn to Hermes #4</i> (pp.91-122); <i>Homeric Hymn to Dionysos #1</i> (pp.27-28); <i>Homeric Hymn to Apollo #3</i> (pp.62-69 ONLY)
4	Wed Sept 5 @ 3pm	Greek Gods & Myth Methods Quiz (based on PDF about the gods on Canvas under "Powerpoints" and powerpoint from Mon Aug 20) *** you will get FOUR chances to take this quiz, which is also 20 questions long
5	Wed Sept 12 @ 3pm	M: Hesiod <i>Theogony</i> lines 507-616; Hesiod <i>Works and Days</i> lines 1-201; Ovid Background (PDF on Canvas); The story of Deucalion & Pyrrha (Ovid <i>Metamorphoses</i> , Bk 1, lines 252-415 (PDF on Canvas) W: <i>Homeric Hymn to Dionysos #7</i> (pp.141-143); The Story of Io (Ovid <i>Met.</i> Bk 1, lines 568-747); <i>Homeric Hymn to Aphrodite #5</i> (pp.123-139); Euripides' <i>Hippolytus</i> , lines 1-120 ONLY (pp.93-98)
6	Wed Sept 26 @ 3pm	M: Background on Euripides & Greek Plays (PDF on Canvas); Euripides' <i>Bacchae</i> lines 1-575 W: Euripides' <i>Bacchae</i> lines 575-end
7	Wed Oct 3 @ 3pm	M: Selections from Apollodorus' <i>Bibliotheca</i> (PDF on Canvas) W: Selections from Apollodorus on the labors of Herakles (PDF on Canvas)
8	Wed Oct 17 @ 3pm	M: Euripides' <i>Medea</i> , lines 1-627 W: Euripides' <i>Medea</i> , lines 628-end
9	Wed Oct 24 @ 3pm	M: Background to the Trojan War handout (PDF on Canvas); Background to <i>Philoctetes</i> (handout on Canvas); Sophocles' <i>Philoctetes</i> , lines 1-729 (PDF on Canvas) W: Sophocles' <i>Philoctetes</i> , lines 730-end
10	Wed Nov 7 @ 3pm	M: <i>Odyssey</i> Books 5-8 W: <i>Odyssey</i> Books 9-10
11	Wed Nov 14 @ 3pm	M: <i>Odyssey</i> Books 11-13 W: <i>Odyssey</i> Books 14, [skip 15], 16-18
12	Wed Nov 28 @ 3pm	M Nov 19: <i>Odyssey</i> Books 19-21 M Nov 26: <i>Odyssey</i> Books 22-24