Instructor: Christina Kraus (christina.kraus@yale.edu) 101 Phelps Hall

Classical Mythologies
Summer 2019, Session A
M, W 1-4:00

COURSE DESCRIPTION
In this course we will read stories of gods and legendary heroes that were told in ancient Greece and Rome. Our central focus will be on the various literary forms of these myths, such as epic and drama, and on their functions in ancient Greek and Roman culture. We will ask questions about where the myths came from, their fundamental types, and their many religious, political, and personal uses not simply as “ingredients” of ancient culture, but as important vehicles used by the Greeks and Romans to explain themselves to themselves. We will read some secondary material concerning the use and theory of myth; we will also consider what new use is being made of these myths—and of the engine of myth in general—through the media of art, literature, and popular culture.

GRADING AND REQUIREMENTS

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<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>100</td>
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<td>Final exam</td>
<td>100</td>
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<td><strong>Total possible points</strong></td>
<td><strong>350</strong></td>
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Students should come to class having read, thought about, and taken notes on the day’s assigned readings. At the end of class each Monday class session (not including the first day of class, Monday, May 27) there will be a 30-minute quiz, worth 50 points each, examining students on their study of the previous week’s materials. Thus, at the first class session of Week 2 you will be quizzed on all the materials (readings and lectures) of Week 1, then in Week 3 you will be quizzed on the materials of Week 2, and so on. A missed quiz will count as a zero.

Class participation will be taken into account (another 100 points), so missing any class during the session’s 5 weeks will have an immediate negative impact on the student’s grade. The final exam, to be held during the second half of class on the last day (June 28), will be essay based and cover the material from the whole session. It is worth 100 points.
REQUIRED TEXTS. These are all available at the Yale Bookstore (Barnes & Noble); they are also available via Amazon.com in used copies. Some material, including all secondary readings, will be supplied on the Canvas class site.

You may use any translation you like but the lectures and assignments will be keyed to the printed editions/translations listed below (marked with an asterisk):

http://chs.harvard.edu/CHS/article/display/5289


*Greek tragedies, volume 1*, edd. D. Grene and R. Lattimore* (we will be reading Aeschylus, *Agamemnon*; Euripides, *Hippolytus*; Sophocles, *Oedipus the King*). These are also available online here, all translated by George Theodoridis:
http://www.poetryintranslation.com/PITBR/Greek/Agamemnon.htm;
https://www.poetryintranslation.com/PITBR/Greek/Hippolytus.php
https://www.poetryintranslation.com/PITBR/Greek/Oedipus.php

*Bacchae*, trans. Woodruff.* A translation by G. Theodoridis is also available online here:
https://www.poetryintranslation.com/PITBR/Greek/Bacchae.php

*Greek tragedies, volume 2*, edd. D. Grene and R. Lattimore.* We will read only the *Trojan Women* from this collection; it is also available online here, trans. G. Theodoridis:
https://www.poetryintranslation.com/PITBR/Greek/TrojanWomen.php

Vergil, *Aeneid* (trans. Fitzgerald).* We will read Books 1-6. Alternatives: translations by West or Fagles available via Amazon.com; also available online here, translated by A.S. Kline:
http://www.poetryintranslation.com/PITBR/Latin/Virgilhome.htm

Ovid, *Metamorphoses* (trans. Melville).* We will read Books 11-15. Alternatives: translations by Raeburn, Humphries, Mandlebaum, or Lombardo available via Amazon.com; also available online here, translated by A.S. Kline:
https://www.poetryintranslation.com/PITBR/Latin/Ovhome.php