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 how they were used 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 as important vehicles used by the Greeks and Romans to explain themselves to themselves. We will read some secondary material considering 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

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>125 points (25 pts. each x 5)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class participation, response exercises</td>
<td>100 points (20 pts per week)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final exercise</td>
<td>75 points (short essay or portfolio)</td>
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This course will be conducted on-line, in synchronous sessions with ample breaks. Students should come to the sessions having read, thought about, and taken notes on the day’s assigned readings. The class sessions will be divided into four parts:

1. presentation of new material and lecture (45 minutes) + 10-minute break (=1-1:55);
2. discussion and questions concerning of reading, with student-led discussion of pre-assigned aspects (45 minutes) + 10 minute-break (=1:55-2:50);
3. quiz or response writing followed by discussion (30 minutes) + short break + introduction of the next class’s material (30 minutes) (=2:50-3:55).
4. the last 20 minutes of class will be available for individual consultations, etc.

In the third hour of each Monday class session (not including the first day of class) there will be a 30-minute quiz on the content of the previous week’s assigned materials via short-answer questions. These will be taken using Canvas’s timed quiz function. 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 on the materials of Week 2, and so on. The last quiz, on week 5’s material, will be taken at the end of the last class. (Students who develop internet connectivity issues before any given quiz may take it at a later time, as long as that is before the next class session.)

The final exercise will comprise a written response, either in the form of an essay (5-7 page paper) or a portfolio of visual material with accompanying analysis. These will be due by the end of the last class. We will begin discussing this final exercise in week 3, to give you plenty of time to prepare.
Because we will be online, class participation and engagement is extremely important. Missing any class will have an immediate negative impact on the student’s grade. Please be sure that you have adequate internet access and bandwidth. Class will be built around discussion of readings and presentations; we will sometimes do quick written exercises during class, for example, responses to written or visual material, and then discuss these as a group.

**REQUIRED TEXTS.** Except for the Hesiod, which is online only, all required texts are available on Amazon and other sites. Some material, including all secondary readings, will be supplied on Canvas. 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):

**Hesiod, Theogony, trans. Nagy, Banks***: [http://chs.harvard.edu/CHS/article/display/5289](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 online here, all translated by George Theodoridis:  
 [http://www.poetryintranslation.com/PITBR/Greek/Agamemnon.htm](http://www.poetryintranslation.com/PITBR/Greek/Agamemnon.htm); 

**Greek tragedies, volume 2, edd. D. Grene and R. Lattimore***: We will read only the *Trojan Women* from this collection; it is also online here, trans. G. Theodoridis:  
 [https://www.poetryintranslation.com/PITBR/Greek/TrojanWomen.php](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 online here, translated by A.S. Kline:  
 [http://www.poetryintranslation.com/PITBR/Latin/Virgilhome.htm](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 online here, translated by A.S. Kline:  

*Claiming other people’s work as your own, either through copying or by inadequately crediting your sources (including direct quotation, ideas, or arguments), is plagiarism. Yale (and I) take a very dim view of such pirating: beyond the serious issues of ethics and morality, it interferes with your intellectual growth. Plagiarized work will receive no credit, so don’t do it! There is lots of good information on how to cite your sources and use secondary material here: [https://poorvucenter.yale.edu/using-sources](https://poorvucenter.yale.edu/using-sources)*