



**FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS AND RELIGION  
COURSE OUTLINE  
Winter 2023**

**COURSE NUMBER:** GREEK & ROMAN STUDIES 209-01

**COURSE NAME:** *Classical Mythology and Literature*

**CLASSROOM LOCATION:** ICT (Information & Communications Technology), Room 102

**CLASS DAYS & TIMES:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:00-3:15 p.m.

**INSTRUCTOR'S NAME:**

James Hume, B.A., M.A.,  
Associate Professor (Teaching),  
Department of Classics and Religion

**INSTRUCTOR'S PHONE, E-MAIL & OFFICE HOURS:**

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Office: Social Sciences (SS) 522

Office Hours: Tuesdays, 12:30-1:30 p.m.; Wednesdays, 11:00-11:50 a.m.; or by appointment

**E-MAIL POLICY**

All official course communications should occur through your @ucalgary e-mail account. Students will be assigned a Teaching Assistant as a first point of contact, according to their surnames (see below).

**OFFICE HOURS**

You may contact your Teaching Assistant without appointment during their designated office hours (to be announced). Alternatively, you may request, via e-mail, an appointment with your Instructor or Teaching Assistant at any point in the Term.

**TEACHING ASSISTANTS:**

Nick Fieseler

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(students with surnames A-Ca)

Office Hour: TBA

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**COURSE CALENDAR STATEMENT**

An introduction to Greek and Roman myths as presented in classical literature and art, and to their cultural context.

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

What is a myth? Is it possible to study it systematically (mythology)? The Greeks and Romans, like all ancient cultures, built a universe of myths—inheriting some, inventing others, and handing many of them down to posterity. We are their heirs, whether through classical art and literature or by way of popular culture. In modern times, a myth as old as that of Oedipus has even become a key to interpreting our private dreams!

These ancient stories are, furthermore, a wonderful entrée into literature and art, from Homeric epic and Athenian tragedy to today's novel; from Greek and Roman sculpture to Renaissance painting to modern cinema. In this course we shall explore the complex heritage of ancient myth, concentrating on the gods, heroes, and monsters that populated the works of Homer, Hesiod, Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, and Ovid. Equal attention will be paid to visual representations of myth, especially those of ancient painters and sculptors.

## **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be better able to decipher and interpret the often-conflicting versions of myth that appear in ancient Greek and Roman literature. They will also learn how to “read” visual representations of these same stories. They will become familiar with several theories of interpretation, both ancient and modern, and hone their abilities to identify and analyze the uses of classical myth in contemporary culture.

## **LEARNING RESOURCES**

Required Textbooks:

- *Classical Mythology* (11<sup>th</sup> edition), by Mark Morford, Robert J. Lenardon, and Michael Sham (Oxford University Press, 2019)
- Sophocles, *Antigone, Oedipus the King, and Electra*, tr. H.D.F. Kitto (Oxford University Press, 2008)

Note: These two textbooks have been packaged together at a special price for purchase through the University of Calgary Bookstore, which can mail out physical copies upon request. *Classical Mythology* (11<sup>th</sup> ed.) is also available for e-book rental through the UofC Bookstore:

<https://calgary-store.vitalsource.com/products/classical-mythology-mark-morford-robert-j-v9780190067243>

If students opt to use earlier editions of *Classical Mythology*, they should be aware that the content, pagination, and selection of photographs may differ from those indicated in the lecture notes. As for the Oxford volume of Sophocles' tragedies, *Oedipus the King* will be the one play on the Required Reading list. Other versions of that play are readily available on-line but, again, students should note that quotations from the play that occur in the D2L documents will refer to Kitto's version.

The most important portions of both textbooks are the generous selections from primary sources (particularly Homer, Hesiod, the Greek playwrights, and Ovid) that are included therein. Morford, Lenardon, and Sham also provide useful commentary on these ancient works which helps to situate them in their historical context and offers interpretations with which your Instructor may or may not agree. No matter: ancient myth is open to many different approaches. To that end, illustrated documents (lecture notes) will be posted on D2L regularly throughout the term, to accompany the lectures and required readings.

**LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES AND REQUIREMENTS**

There is a D2L website for this course which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (see d2L.ucalgary.ca).

**CLASS SCHEDULE**

| DATE   | LECTURE                                      | READINGS*   |
|--|--|---|
| Tues. 10 Jan.                                      | 1. Introduction: That's a Myth!              | I.1. Interpretation & Definition of Classical Mythology, pp. 3-38                       |
| <b>GODS</b>  |  |   |
| Thurs. 12 Jan.                                     | 2. Chaos to Cosmos: The Primordial Gods      | I.3. Myths of Creation, pp. 59-81   |
| Tues. 17 Jan.                                      | 3. The Birth of Aphrodite                    | I.9. Aphrodite & Eros, pp. 190-222  |
| Thurs. 19 Jan.                                     | 4. Aphrodite x Two: Competing Myths          |   |
| Tues. 24 Jan.                                      | 5. The Titanomachy: Succession Myth, Part II | I.4. Zeus' Rise to Power, pp. 82-91   |
| Thurs. 26 Jan.                                     | 6. Typhoeus & Other Monsters                 | I.7. Monsters, pp. 166f., 169-173   |
| Tues. 31 Jan.                                      | 7. Prometheus, Pandora, & the Ages           | I.4. Zeus' Rise to Power (cont'd), pp. 91-113   |
| Thurs. 2 Feb.                                      | 8. Zeus' Family: The Olympian Pantheon       | I.5. The Twelve Olympians, pp. 114-135  |
| Tues. 7 Feb.                                       | 9. Athena: Her Father's Daughter             | I.8. Athena, pp. 176-189  |
| Thurs. 9 Feb.                                      | 10. Artemis & Apollo: Olympian Twins         | I.10. Artemis, pp. 223-246;<br>I.11. Apollo, pp. 247-280                                |
| Tues. 14 Feb.                                      | 11. Hermes: The Trickster God                | I.12. Hermes, pp. 281-299   |
| Thurs. 16 Feb.                                     | 12. Dionysos: A Special Case                 | I.13. Dionysus, pp. 300-324   |
| 19-25 February: READING WEEK ( <i>No classes</i> ) |  |   |
| Tues. 28 Feb.                                      | <b>MID-TERM EXAM #1</b>                      |   |
| <b>HEROES</b>                                      |  |   |
| Thurs. 2 Mar.                                      | 13. Heroes: An Overview                      | II. Introduction, pp. 403-407; more readings will be supplied.                          |
| Tues. 7 Mar.                                       | 14. Heracles: Man or God?                    | II.22. Heracles, pp. 554-582  |
| Thurs. 9 Mar.                                      | 15. Heracles: His Labours                    |   |
| Tues. 14 Mar.                                      | 16. The Theban Saga                          | II.17. The Theban Saga, pp. 408-436   |
| Thurs. 16 Mar.                                     | 17. Oedipus the King                         | Sophocles' "Oedipus the King" (entire), from H.D.F. Kitto's translation                 |
| Tues. 21 Mar.                                      | 18. Interpreting Oedipus                     |   |
| Thurs. 23 Mar.                                     | <b>MID-TERM EXAM #2</b>                      |   |
| Tues. 28 Mar.                                      | 19. Jason & the Argonauts                    | II.24. Jason, Medea & the Argonauts, pp. 607-634  |
| Thurs. 30 Mar.                                     | 20. Medea                                    | II.24. Jason, Medea & the Argonauts (cont'd), esp. Euripides' <i>Medea</i> , pp. 621ff. |
| Tues. 4 Apr.                                       | 21. The Trojan Saga From Egg to Ashes        | II.19. The Trojan Saga and the <i>Iliad</i> , pp. 467-516                               |
| Thurs. 6 Apr.                                      | 22. Odysseus: A Different Kind of Hero       | II.20. The Returns and the <i>Odyssey</i> , pp. 517-539                                 |
| Tues. 11 Apr.                                      | 23. Odysseus and the Fate of Heroes          |   |

The **FINAL EXAM** will be scheduled by the Registrar during the Exam period (15-26 April).

*\*Unless otherwise noted, all assigned readings are from Classical Mythology (11<sup>th</sup> edition), ed. Mark Morford et al. (Oxford University Press, 2019). The entire text of Sophocles' play, Oedipus the King, may be found in H.D.F. Kitto's translation (Oxford, 2008). Finally, the documents that will be regularly posted to this course's D2L website are also required reading.*

**EXAMINATIONS**

There will be two in-class Exams during the Term, scheduled on the dates indicated in the chart below. These will occur during the regularly-scheduled class times (2:00-3:15 p.m.), lasting seventy-five minutes each. They will consist of a combination of questions of matching, fill-in-the-blank, and short answer varieties. Students will also be asked to identify details in visual depictions of myths. A two-hour Final Exam, to be scheduled by the Registrar during the Fall exam period (15-26 April), will be similar in content to the Mid-Term Tests. Notice that the exams are of increasing grade-weight, inasmuch as each exam will be cumulative.

**ASSESSMENT COMPONENTS**

| Date                         | Assessment        | Weight (%) | Required pass/fail |
|------------------------------|-------------------|------------|--------------------|
| Tuesday 28 February          | Mid-Term Test # 1 | 25%        | No                 |
| Thursday 23 March            | Mid-Term Test #2  | 35%        | No                 |
| To be scheduled by Registrar | Final Exam        | 40%        | No                 |

**MISSED EXAMS**

If you cannot complete an Exam on the due date, let your Instructor know (preferably ahead of time, but no later than 24 hours after the fact), and some alternative arrangements may be made. Failure to do so will result in a grade of zero for the component in question.

**GRADING**

A numerical mark will be given for each course requirement. A letter grade will be assigned on the following number and letter grade scheme, usually used within the Department of Classics and Religion:

|    |          |   |         |    |          |
|----|----------|---|---------|----|----------|
| A+ | 100 - 96 | A | 95 - 90 | A- | 89 - 85  |
| B+ | 84 - 80  | B | 79 - 75 | B- | 74 - 70  |
| C+ | 69 - 65  | C | 64 - 60 | C- | 59 - 55  |
| D+ | 54 - 53  | D | 52-50   | F  | Under 50 |

N.B. All written assignments will be graded with regard to both form and content. A student’s final grade for the course is the sum of the separate assignments. It is not necessary to pass each assignment separately in order to pass the course.

**EXPECTATIONS FOR WRITING**

Each Exam will require one or several small samples of short-answer writing, usually no more than a few paragraphs in length. These must be written in full and grammatically correct sentences; point-form will not be acceptable.

If you need help with your writing, you may use the writing support services in the Learning Commons. For further information, please refer to the official online University of Calgary Calendar, Academic Regulations, E. Course Information, E.2: Writing Across the Curriculum:  
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html>

## **CONDUCT**

Students, employees, and academic staff are also expected to demonstrate behaviour in class that promotes and maintains a positive and productive learning environment. As members of the University community, students, employees, and academic staff are expected to demonstrate conduct that is consistent with the University of Calgary Calendar, the Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures, which can be found at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

## **COURSE EVALUATIONS AND STUDENT FEEDBACK**

Include information on opportunities for students to provide feedback on the course for evaluation and continuous improvement.

## **ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit:

<https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>

<https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-procedure.pdf>

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>.

## **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The Student Accommodations policy is available at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>.

Students needing an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>). Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than Disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/).

## **INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of

extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY**

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

### **COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION**

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright-policy.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>.

### **SEXUAL VIOLENCE POLICY**

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's sexual violence policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the policy available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/sexual-violence-policy.pdf>

### **OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Please visit the Registrar's website at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk