

CLCS-20500 CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY  
SUMMER I 2020  
DR. DAMIAN FLEMING

VIRTUAL OFFICE HOURS: by appointment (email any time)  
EMAIL: [flemingd@pfw.edu](mailto:flemingd@pfw.edu)

COURSE WEBSITE: <https://purdue.brightspace.com/>  
COURSE DESCRIPTION:

“An introduction to Greek and Roman myths, legends, and tales, especially those that have an important place in the Western cultural tradition.”

This course fulfills

- [PFW Area 6 General Education \(Humanistic and Artistic Ways of Knowing\)](#)
- [College of Arts & Sciences Cultural Studies \(Western Tradition\)](#)

REQUIRED TEXTS (available at PFW bookstore and widely available online):

All students are strongly advised to have **THESE EXACT TRANSLATIONS** (used copies are easily available on Amazon, etc.)

- **Homer:** *The Iliad*, trans. Stanley Lombardo ([Hackett](#), 1997) ISBN: 0872203522
- **Homer:** *The Odyssey*, trans. Emily Wilson ([Norton](#), 2018) ISBN: 0393356256
- **Trzaskoma,** *Anthology Of Classical Myth* ([Hackett](#), 2004) ISBN: 1624664970
- **Ovid,** *Metamorphoses*, trans. Stanley Lombardo ([Hackett](#), 2010) ISBN: 1603843078
- **Virgil,** *Aeneid*, trans. Robert Fitzgerald (Vintage, 1983) ISBN: 9780679729525

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Regular posting and participation in online discussions based on reading of all assignments
2. 2 Research Projects
3. Midterm and Final examination

CLASS STRUCTURE:

This class is 100% online and asynchronous (there are no required real-time virtual meetings). However, this class has a significant amount of reading, which is best understood when given time to process. With that in mind, this course is structured as if it were an in-person summer class, meeting 3 times a week for 2.5 hours/meeting. The readings and posts **should** be finished before the end of the assigned day; all readings and posts for a week **must** be finished before 11:59pm on Friday of that week.

Sticking to a shared schedule will help each of us keep up with the assignments as well as help to build a sense of community in the class. Given the online nature of the class and the current state of the world, I am willing to be lenient, but getting too far off schedule will make success in this course extremely difficult for you.

I will post short video and text-based “lecture” introductions to the readings.

## EXAMS:

We will have open-note/open-book Midterm and Final Exams which are short essays based on the readings and material covered in lectures and discussions.

## PROJECTS:

Each student will create two online projects which will be shared with the rest of the class. These projects will be online papers (750-1000 words) which compare and contrast representations of mythological stories with the textual sources of those stories. The first will be a comparison with a work of art; the second will be with some form of modern media (movie, video game, etc.) Details and due dates will be on Brightspace.

## POSTINGS/DISCUSSION (**READ CAREFULLY**)

For each scheduled assignment, everyone will do ALL of the assigned reading. Each student will then start 3 discussion threads by writing informal responses to the reading of at **least 50 words each**.

Each thread response must include at least:

1. A **quotation** (with quotation marks! for example: "I hate it like I hate hell the man who says one thing and thinks another")
2. A **citation** for the quotation (titles of works in *italics!* for example: *Iliad*, 9.317-318)
3. **Contextualize** the quotation (Who said it? When? To whom? About what?)
4. Talk about its **significance** in the reading or why you choose it

Responses don't have to be formal, but must be **at least 50 words long each (excluding quotation)**.

NO secondary research is required. If you use any resources to supplement your reading, these must be in your response. Using unacknowledged sources in your response will constitute plagiarism, and will result in a failing grade for the course.

In addition to starting 3 threads, each student must **reply to at least three** of your class mates threads

To let me know that you have read this far in the syllabus, visit the website [www.theoi.com](http://www.theoi.com) and find a cool mythological picture. Email it to me, Dr. Fleming, before our first class meeting.

## GRADING:

Discussions/Quizzes/etc:	30%
Research Projects:	40%
Midterm and Final:	30%

## GRADE SCALE:

A	93–100	Highest passing grade	4.0
A-	90–93		3.7
B+	87–89		3.3
B	84–86	Above-average passing grade	3.0
B-	80–83		2.7
C+	77–79		2.3
C	74–76	Average passing grade	2.0
C-	70–73		1.7
D+	65–69		1.3
D	60–64	Lowest passing grade	1.0
F	below 60	Failure or unauthorized discontinuance of class attendance; no credit.	

## DISABILITIES STATEMENT:

If you have a disability and need assistance, special arrangements can be made to accommodate most needs. Contact the Director of Services for Students with Disabilities (Walb Union, Room 113, telephone number 481-6657) as soon as possible to work out the details. For more information, please visit the web site for SSD at <http://www.pfw.edu/ssd/>. Keep in mind that accommodations are not retroactive, so it is best to contact the office **as soon as possible**.

## FOR ALL STUDENTS:

**Retroactive** accommodations cannot be made. If you feel that you have an issue which may affect your ability to succeed in this class, please notify me **as soon as possible**. Hopefully, any issue can be resolved, but it is difficult to fix after the fact.

## ACADEMIC HONESTY:

**USING ANOTHER PERSON'S WORDS OR IDEAS WITHOUT ATTRIBUTION IS PLAGIARISM.**

Plagiarism will earn you an **F** for the course, and possible expulsion from the University. If you borrow an idea or quote from another author, you must cite where you found the material. If you have any questions about citing sources, please **\*\*ASK\*\*** before your turn in an assignment. I am happy to help, or visit the Writing Center. <http://www.pfw.edu/casa/writing/>.

## SCHEDULE:

The most up-to-date schedule for all assignments can be found on the course WEBSITE: <https://purdue.brightspace.com/>. The Reading Schedule is posted below and will not change significantly, so you can have a sense of the amount and order of our reading.

## WEEK 1

May 18

1. Hesiod, *Theogony*, lines 1-115 (*Anthology of Classical Myth* [ACM], p. 129-135) ([pdf if you don't have book yet](#))
2. selections from Plato's *Republic* ACM p. 322-326 (role of myth)
3. from Plato, *Symposium* ACM p. 332-334 (origin of sexes) ([pdf](#))

May 20

Homer, *The Iliad* Books 1-5

Focus on:

Book 1 (whole thing)

Book 2, lines 1-300; 472-521; 873-932

Book 3 (whole thing)

Book 4.1-97

Book 5.1-600

[\(pdf if you don't have book yet\)](#)

May 22

1. Hesiod *Theogony* (ACM p. 129-160) ([pdf](#))

• Focus on lines

○ 1-210 (Intro; Creation; Ouranos and Aphrodite)

○ 456-620 (Olympians and Prometheus)

○ 886-969 (Zeus in Power)

2. Ovid's *Metamorphoses* Book 1.1-153 ([pdf](#))

3. Genesis chapter 1-2:2 (any translation is fine; [here's a handy online one](#))

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WEEK 2

May 25 : Memorial Day

May 27

Homer, *The Iliad* 6-16 selections:

Book, 6.245-560

Book 9

Book 10

Book 14

Book 15.1-80;

Book 16.1-264; and 678-906

May 29

1. Hesiod, from *Works and Days* (ACM p. 160-167)

2. selections from [Aeschylus \*Prometheus Bound\*](#) (link)

3. Genesis chapters 2 and 3 (any translation; [here's one](#))

Ovid assignment

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## WEEK 3

June 1

- Homer, *The Iliad* 17-24 selections:  
Book 17.1-195  
Book 18.1-158; and 396-661  
Book 22  
Book 23  
Book 24

June 3

1. Flood Stories
  - a. Ovid, *Metamorphoses* 1.154-453
  - b. Genesis [chapters 6-9](#)
2. Homeric Hymn to Apollo (ACM p. 178-187)
3. Homeric Hymn to Hermes (ACM p. 187-197)

June 5

- Homer, *The Odyssey* Books 1-8  
Book 1 (whole thing)  
Book 4.1-34; 203-305; 625-end  
Book 5 (whole thing)  
Book 6 (whole thing)  
Book 7.240-end  
Book 8.256-367;487-end

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## WEEK 4

June 8

1. Homeric Hymn to Aphrodite (ACM p. 197-203)
2. [Poems by Sappho](#)
3. Homeric Hymns to Artemis and Athena (ACM p. 204 and p. 208)
4. Ovid, *Metamorphoses* 3.148-267 (Diana and Acteon)
5. Ovid, *Metamorphoses* 6.1-162 (Minerva and Arachne)

June 10

- Homer, *Odyssey* 9-13  
Book 9  
Book 10  
Book 11  
Book 12  
Book 13.1-47;187-351;430-end

June 12

1. Homeric Hymn to Demeter (ACM p. 169-178)
  2. from Plato, *Republic: Myth of Er* (ACM p. 326-331)
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## WEEK 5

June 15

Homer, *Odyssey* 14-19  
Book 14.1-108  
Book 15.300-379  
Book 16.1-220  
Book 17  
Book 18.1-123; 312-429  
Book 19.1-64;335-605

June 17

1. Homeric Hymns to Dionysus ACM p.168-169; 203
2. selections from Euripides *Bacchae*
3. Ovid, *Metamorphoses* 10.1-109 and
4. Ovid, *Metamorphoses* 11.1-91 (Orpheus and Eurydice)

June 19

Homer, *Odyssey* 21-24  
Book 21.1-99;189-end  
Book 22  
Book 23  
Book 24.1-99; 325-550

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## WEEK 6

June 22

Virgil, *Aeneid*  
Book 1  
Book 2

June 23

Virgil, *Aeneid*  
Book 4  
Book 6

June 25

Virgil, *Aeneid*  
Book 8.793-992 (Shield of Aeneas)  
Book 9. 1-638 (Nisus and Euryalus)  
Book 11.722-1240 (Camilla)  
Book 12. 744-1298 (Final fight)