



GREEK MYTHOLOGY

Dr. Alexia Zotou
June 10-30, 2024

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course surveys the central stories, gods, and heroes of Greek myth. We will read and analyze the ancient literary sources, interpreting them in their cultural context. The first week is devoted to the twelve Olympian gods. In the second and third weeks we turn to the Theban and the Trojan mythological cycles, respectively.

Besides providing an overview of Greek myth, this course is designed to take advantage of its Athenian setting. For example, since we tour the Athenian Acropolis and Agora, we will study the myths and legends that took place in those locations or were depicted on temples there. Soon after we visit the ancient theater, we will study myths related to Dionysus. We will read some of the most interesting literary works of the ancient world, while becoming immersed in their material and social context.

FIELD STUDY

Field study includes visits to the following archaeological sites and museums:

Mycenae, Argos, Nafplion; the National Archaeological Museum; Kerameikos, Plato's Academy, Acropolis, Athenian Agora, Theater of Dionysus, Areopagus, Pnyx, and Eleusis; Aristotle's Lyceum, Roman Agora, Library of Hadrian, Temple of Olympian Zeus, Philopappos Monument, Thorikos, and Sounion.

EVALUATION FOR STUDENTS SEEKING CREDIT

Three, once-weekly quizzes, including term IDs, short answers, and essays. 5-7 pg. paper	45%
Class participation	35%
	20%

REQUIRED BOOKS

The following books must be acquired **prior to** student arrival in Athens:

1. Homer, *Iliad*. Transl. Fagles.
<https://www.amazon.com/Iliad-Homer/dp/0670835102>
2. Homer, *Odyssey*. Transl. Fagles
<https://www.amazon.com/Odyssey-Homer/dp/0140268863>
3. Hesiod, *Theogony*. Transl. M. L. West
https://www.amazon.com/Theogony-Works-Oxford-Worlds-Classics/dp/019953831X/ref=sr_1_1?crd=1KIXW0YGK5MQQ&keywords=hesiod+theogony&qid=1568289268&s=books&sprefix=hesiod+theo%2Cstrip+books-intl-ship%2C262&sr=1-1
4. *Homeric Hymns*, Transl. Crudden
<https://www.amazon.com/Homeric-Hymns-Oxford-Worlds-Classics/dp/0199554757>
5. *The Greek Plays: Sixteen Plays by Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides*. Ed. Mary Lefkowitz and James Romm
https://www.amazon.com/Greek-Plays-Aeschylus-Sophocles-Euripides/dp/0812983092/ref=tmm_pap_swatch_0?encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=

An online course pack will also be provided by the instructors at the beginning of the seminar. Readings marked with an asterisk on the schedule below are included in the course pack.

SCHEDULE OF READINGS

WEEK ONE

Zeus, Hera, Poseidon; Apollo and Artemis

Hesiod, *Theogony*
Homeric Hymn to Apollo

Athena; Demeter; Hephaestus, Ares and Aphrodite

Callimachus, Hymn to Athena*
Homeric Hymn to Demeter
Homer, *Odyssey* 8

Hermes; Dionysus

Homeric Hymn to Hermes
Euripides, *Bacchae*

WEEK TWO

Sophocles, <i>Oedipus Rex</i>

Sophocles, <i>Antigone</i>

Euripides, <i>Medea</i>

WEEK THREE

Homer, <i>Iliad</i> 18 & 24

Aeschylus, <i>Agamemnon</i>

Aeschylus, <i>Eumenides</i>
