

UNIVERSITY of GUELPH
SCHOOL of LANGUAGES and LITERATURES
WINTER 2021
COURSE OUTLINE

CLAS*2000 Classical Mythology
LEC MWF¹
02:30PM–3:20PM

Instructor: Dr John Walsh
Office: N/A
Extension: N/A
e-mail: waljo@uoguelph.ca²

Office Hours: Tuesday (9:30-10:30am); Wednesday (3:30-4:30pm)

Objective:

The course will study the Greek myths as traditional tales which, in addition to their narrative interest, convey attitudes of the early Greeks to their natural environment, the institutions of their society and dominant forms of thought (of any of which no prior knowledge is expected). Ancient and modern interpretations of these myths will be studied. The myth-making of Plato will be shown to elucidate some of the functions of the earlier myths and Lévi-Strauss' comprehensive theory of myth will illuminate further functions. Myths which are basic to later works of poetic and plastic art will be given special emphasis.

Prerequisite: None.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, an assiduous student will be able to:

1. connect specific myths to the cultures that produced them;
2. identify the histories and functions of the gods and heroes of classical myth;
3. identify the literary and the visual iconography of major gods, heroes, and legends of classical myth;
4. discuss the ways in which morality deconstructs the idea of absolute interpretation or objective reading;
5. identify the ways in which collection, transcription, and scholarship constantly reinterpret an oral tradition for new generations;
6. examine the ways in which variant versions of a story focus attention on the invariant elements;
7. explore a variety of scholarly approaches to mythology in discussion and writing;
8. develop an appreciation for the range and diversity of mythology and folklore;
9. identify recurring mythological themes and motifs, and
10. recognise the role of myth in the arts.

¹This course will deliver the material via a hybrid model (i.e. a mix of synchronous lectures and asynchronous activities) via Zoom. Links are provided through Courselink. All lectures will be recorded and posted to Courselink for students to reference.

²To facilitate efficient communication, please include on **ALL** email correspondence the course code and number (i.e. CLAS*2000). Emails that do not identify the course may not be answered.

Learning Resources Required:

The main text for this course will be Graves, Robert. *The Greek Myths*. New York: George Braziller, 1957. It is available as a free open-access source through McLaughlin Library or may be purchased online. All additional readings of ancient sources in translation will be provided free through Courselink from open-access electronic sources.

As part of the Weekly Engagement Activities for this course, students will be required to purchase an app. Further detail on how to purchase this app will be posted in the course Announcements.

Method of Evaluation:³

Quizzes	Weekly (weeks 1-12) lowest grade to be dropped	20%
Preliminary Bibliography	Friday, Week 6 <11:59pm	5%
Contemporary Analysis of Myth	Friday, Week 8 <11:59pm	10%
Research Paper (Draft)	Friday, Week 11 <11:59pm	10%
Research Paper (Final)	Friday, Week 12 <11:59pm	30%
Video Abstract	Friday, Week 12 <11:59pm	5%
Weekly Engagement Activities	Weekly (weeks 1-12) lowest grade to be dropped	20%
Total		100%

Office Hours:

In light of the special circumstances of Winter'21, there will be **no in-person Office Hours**. Time will be reserved for students to consult on matters pertaining to this course (see above). The instructor will be available to meet remotely through Zoom as needed. Please feel free to use our synchronous meetings to ask questions. The TAs and TA Coordinator are available to discuss the course content and evaluations as you require. Please direct research questions to the TA Coordinator, Hannah Hodgson (PhD candidate).

Late Work:

Except in the case of situations addressed in the University Regulations (see Undergraduate Calendar), no work will be accepted or graded after the posted Due Date. It is the responsibility of the student to approach the instructor in a timely manner in Office Hours to discuss remedies to difficulties and the circumstances contributing to work not being completed on time. Students are advised to consult the Academic Regulations in the Undergraduate Calendar Process for Academic Consideration and Appeals pertaining to incomplete coursework. Students are also reminded “to consult the program counsellor as soon as extenuating circumstances affect academic performance in order to initiate action and provide any required documentation.”

³ All assignments are described in full on Courselink (see “Content”).

Out of fairness, courtesy, and respect to all students (and the TAs) who manage their time and semester responsibly, the Late Policies outlined below must be strictly enforced. If you find yourself struggling with timelines and the demands of this course, meet with the instructor during regularly scheduled Office Hours to discuss potential arrangements. Students who struggle academically through the semester are encouraged to seek advice and guidance from their Program Advisor(s). The Dropbox closing time for ALL assignments is 11:59pm. Students who choose to submit their work in close proximity to this time assume all the associated risks of doing so. Maintaining copies and backups for your work is an essential component of working with computers; thus, extensions cannot be granted to accommodate a failure to save or backup work. This policy applies to crashed, broken and/or stolen laptops, and any possible complication resulting from technical mishaps. **NO SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE DROPBOX HAS CLOSED.**

ALL ARRANGEMENTS CONCERNING MISSED/LATE ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE DISCUSSED DURING SCHEDULED OFFICE HOURS. Email cannot be used for these purposes. All aspects of this course (including Late Policies and Evaluations) are always understood to be in accordance with any individual student's SAS accommodation agreement and needs. Students registered with SAS are encouraged to discuss course related SAS matters with their instructor and/or Advisor as early as possible. All effort possible will be made to accommodate students registered with SAS. Notes from medical practitioners or other third-parties are not required for incomplete in-semester work in this course.

University Statements

Email Communication

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. The grounds for Academic Consideration are detailed in the Undergraduate and Graduate Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Consideration and Appeals

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Grounds for Academic Consideration

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml>

Drop Date

Students will have until the last day of classes to drop courses without academic penalty. The deadline to drop two-semester courses will be the last day of classes in the second semester. This applies to all students (undergraduate, graduate and diploma) except for Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Associate Diploma in Veterinary Technology (conventional and alternative delivery) students. The regulations and procedures for course registration are available in their respective Academic Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Dropping Courses

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Registration Changes

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/genreg-reg-regchg.shtml>

Copies of Out-of-class Assignments

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

Accessibility

The University promotes the full participation of students who experience disabilities in their academic programs. To that end, the provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between the University and the student.

When accommodations are needed, the student is required to first register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Documentation to substantiate the existence of a disability is required; however, interim accommodations may be possible while that process is underway.

Accommodations are available for both permanent and temporary disabilities. It should be noted that common illnesses such as a cold or the flu do not constitute a disability.

Use of the SAS Exam Centre requires students to book their exams at least 7 days in advance and not later than the 40th Class Day.

For Guelph students, information can be found on the SAS website

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/sas>

Academic Integrity

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity, and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community-faculty, staff, and students-to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff, and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that encourages academic integrity. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml>

Recording of Materials

Presentations that are made in relation to course work - including lectures - cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a student, or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

Resources

The Academic Calendars are the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies, and regulations that apply to undergraduate, graduate, and diploma programs.

Academic Calendars: <https://www.uoguelph.ca/academics/calendars>

Disclaimer

Please note that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may necessitate a revision of the format of course offerings and academic schedules. Any such changes will be announced via CourseLink and/or class email. All University-wide decisions will be posted on the COVID-19 website (<https://news.uoguelph.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus-information/>) and circulated by email.

Illness

The University will not normally require verification of illness (doctor's notes) for fall 2020 or winter 2021 semester courses. However, requests for Academic Consideration may still require medical documentation as appropriate.