



HART 234 CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY IN ART

The Course

This course is intended as an introduction to Greek and Roman mythology. The aim is to acquaint students to the major mythological characters and stories. Greek and Roman gods, goddesses, demigods, heroes and their stories have been employed and interpreted in works of art, literature, and music throughout centuries. The course offers a basic yet solid background to students who wish to have a better understanding of such reflections in various fields of cultural production.

Without disregarding the religious and ritual aspects of mythology, we will get to know the characters and their stories as well as their reflections in art. Following the trail of Ovid, we will explore how myths were used in the visual arts.

Instructor

N. Zeynep Yelçe (zeynep.yelce@sabanciuniv.edu)

Assistant

Deniz Müftüler (deniz.muftuler@sabanciuniv.edu)

Classroom and Office on Zoom

Please [click](#) to join

Class Schedule (Live on Zoom)

Wednesday 12:40-14:30

Thursday 12:40-13:30

Office Hours (On Zoom)

Tuesday, 14:30-15:30

Time-Conflict Policy

Time Conflict requests will not be accepted due to in-class assignment load.

Requirements

Attendance and participation	20 %
Response paper exams (4 x 5)	20 %
Midterm Exam	25 %
Final Exam	35 %

Exams constitute of around four essay questions. When answering the questions, you are expected to engage in contextual and conceptual discussion rather than citing exact dates and/or telling a story in detail.

For the response papers, you will be expected to write a 1-2 page essay on a given question, based on the issues and concepts discussed in class.

For more information, please visit Course Information at SuCourse+

Grading

Your letter grade as well as exam grades are based on your individual performance.

Letter grades are calculated according to the following letter grade scale and are not open to negotiation. Requests for extra work or other compensation will not be accepted.

min. 59	min. 64	min. 68	min. 72	min. 76	min. 80	min. 84	min. 88	min. 92	min. 96
D	D+	C-	C	C+	B-	B	B+	A-	A

Attendance

Attendance is required in this course.

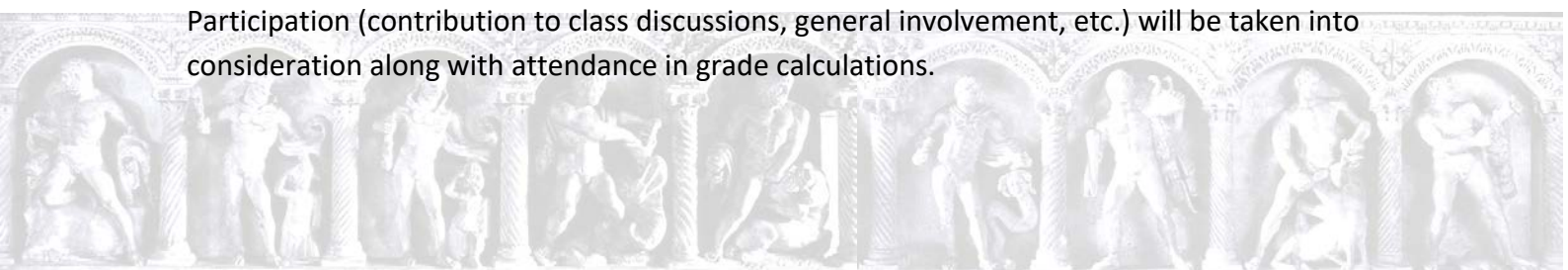
Attendance is taken on an hourly basis during all live sessions. Failure to attend more than three hours requires points to be taken off the overall grade.

Attendance follow-up starts at the end of the add-drop period.

Participation

Please keep your cameras on during Zoom sessions.

Participation (contribution to class discussions, general involvement, etc.) will be taken into consideration along with attendance in grade calculations.



Academic Honesty Policy

HART 234 does not tolerate dishonesty and plagiarism.

For information on plagiarism, please see Course Information. For exam and in-class assignment rules, please see Course Information.

Students with Special Needs

It is the policy of Sabancı University to accommodate students with special needs and disabilities. To determine accommodations and/or academic adjustments, please contact specialneeds@sabanciuniv.edu.

READING LIST

Edith Hamilton, *Mythology: Timeless Tales of Gods and Heroes*, Boston: Grand Central Publishing, 2011. ([click for Homer Bookstore](#))

Robert Graves, *Greek Myths: Complete and Definitive Edition*, Penguin, 2011. ([click for Homer Bookstore](#))

Online access to following texts is available at IC under HART 234 Course Reserve:

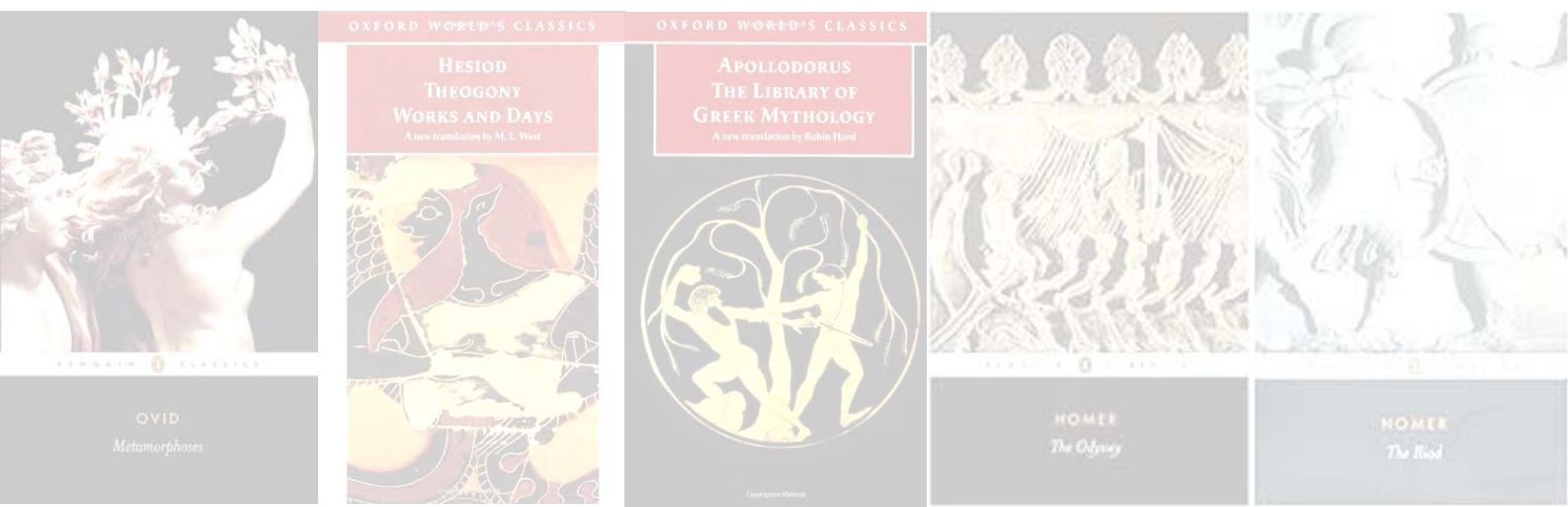
Apollodorus, *The Library of Greek Mythology*, trans. Robin Hard, Oxford University Press, 2008. ([click for Homer Bookstore](#))

Hesiod, *Works of Hesiod and the Homeric Hymns*, trans. Daryl Hine, University of Chicago Press, 2005. ([click for Homer Bookstore](#))

Homer, *The Iliad*, trans. Richmond Lattimore, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2011.

Homer, *The Odyssey*, trans. Richmond Lattimore, New York: Harper Perennial Modern Classics, 2007. ([click for Homer Bookstore](#))

Ovid, *Metamorphoses*, trans. Rolfe Humphries, Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1983. ([click for Homer Bookstore](#))



WEEKLY SCHEDULE AND READING ASSIGNMENTS

WEEK 1. OCTOBER 07-08

Introduction: Definitions and contexts of myth. Greek or Roman or Greco-Roman?

Hesiod, "Works and Days" (excerpt)

Hamilton, "Introduction" and "How the World and Mankind were Created"

Recommended: Hesiod, "Theogony" (excerpt); Graves, "The Olympian Creation Myth"

WEEK 2. OCTOBER 14-15

Olympians: Zeus and Hera

Ovid, "Jove and Io" (Book I: lines 569-750); Apollodorus, "Theogony" (Book 1.1)

Hamilton, "The Titans and the Twelve Great Olympians"; Graves, "Zeus and Hera"

Recommended: Hesiod, "Homeric Hymns" (To Hera and To Zeus).

WEEK 3. OCTOBER 21-22

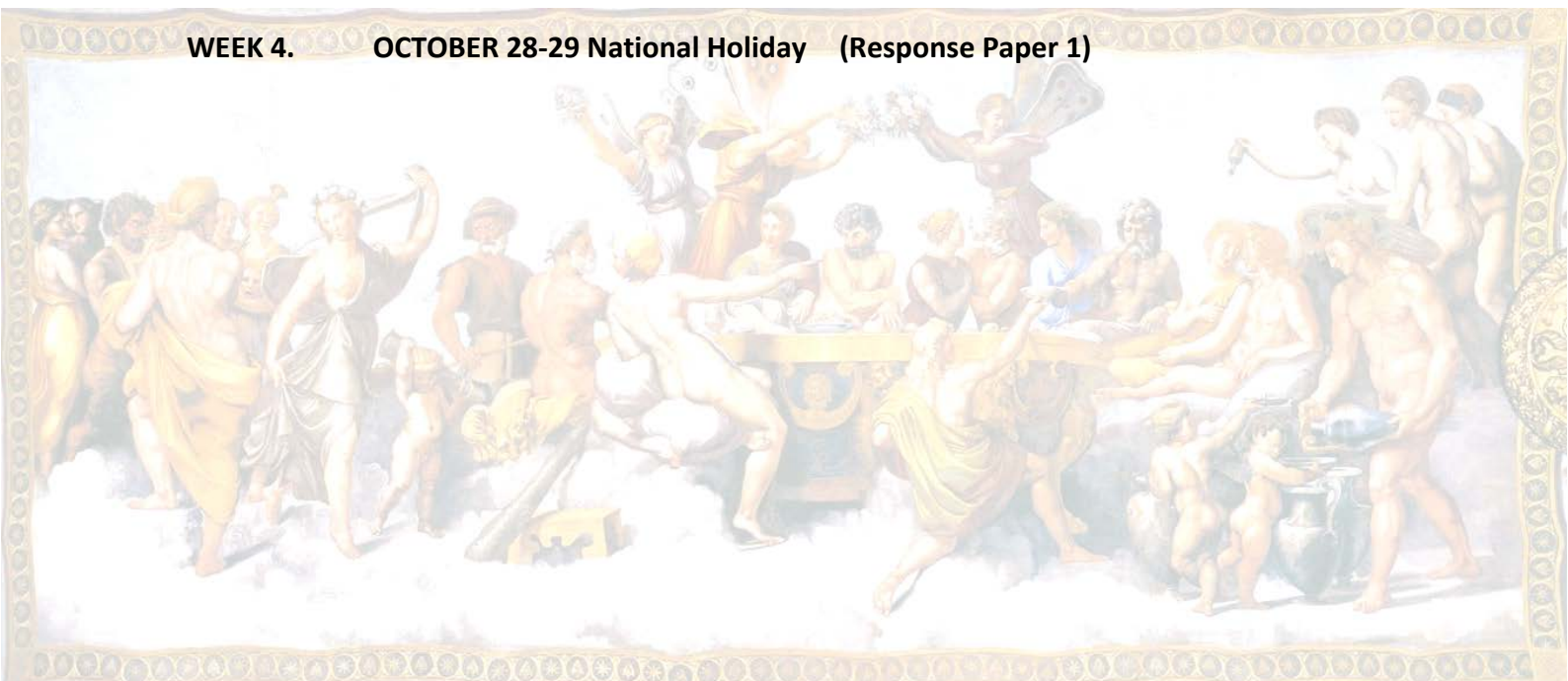
Olympians: Poseidon, Hades, Demeter

Ovid, "Ceres, Pluto, and Proserpina" (Book V: lines 341-661)

Graves, "Poseidon's Nature and Deeds" and "Demeter's Nature and Deeds" and "Gods of the Underworld"

Recommended: Hesiod, "Homeric Hymns" (To Demeter and To Poseidon)

WEEK 4. OCTOBER 28-29 National Holiday (Response Paper 1)



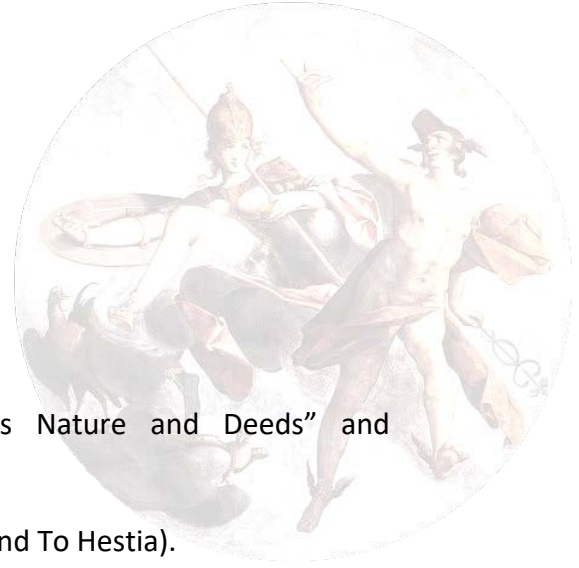
WEEK 5. NOVEMBER 04-05

Olympians: Athena, Hermes, Hestia

Ovid, "Minerva and Arachne" (Book VI: lines 1-144)

Graves, "Athena's Nature and Deeds" and "Hermes's Nature and Deeds" and "Hestia's Nature and Deeds"

Recommended: Hesiod, "Homeric Hymns" (To Athena and To Hestia).



WEEK 6. NOVEMBER 11-12

Olympians: Aphrodite, Ares, Hephaestus

Ovid, "The Story of Mars and Venus" (Book IV: lines 170-193) and "The Story of Adonis" (Book X: lines 519-739)

Graves, "Hephaestus's Nature and Deeds" and "Ares's Nature and Deeds" and "Aphrodite's Nature and Deeds"

Recommended: Hesiod, "Homeric Hymns" (To Aphrodite, To Ares, and To Hephaestus).

WEEK 7. NOVEMBER 18-19 (Response Paper 2)

Olympians: Apollo and Artemis

Ovid, "Apollo and Daphne" (Book I, lines: 450-568) and "The Story of the Raven" (Book II: lines 539-636) and "The Story of Actaeon" (Book III: lines 138-249) and "The Story of Apollo and Hyacinthus" (Book X: lines 162-220)

Graves, "Apollo's Nature and Deeds" and "Artemis's Nature and Deeds" (pp.76-86)

Recommended: Hesiod, "Homeric Hymns" (To Apollo and To Artemis).

WEEK 8. NOVEMBER 25-26 (Midterm Exam)

Dionysus

Ovid, "The Story of Semele" (Book III: lines 250-315) and Apollodorus, "Dionysus" (Book 3.1)

Hamilton, "Dionysus or Bacchus"

Recommended: Hesiod, "Homeric Hymns" (To Dionysus); Graves, "Dionysus' Nature and Deeds"

WEEK 9. DECEMBER 02-03

Stories of Mortals and Immortals: Heracles and Perseus

Ovid, "The Story of Perseus" (Book IV: lines 605-803)

Hamilton, "Hercules" and "Perseus"

Recommended: Apollodorus, "Perseus" (Book 2.4) and "Heracles" (Book 2.5); Hesiod, "Homeric Hymns" (To Heracles); Graves, "Labours" and "Perseus"

WEEK 10. DECEMBER 09-10 (Response Paper 3)

Stories of Mortals and Immortals: Orpheus and Theseus

Ovid, "The Story of Orpheus and Eurydice" (Book X: lines 1-110) and "The Death of Orpheus" (Book XI: lines 1-83)

Hamilton, "Orpheus and Eurydice" and "Theseus"

Recommended: Graves, "Orpheus"

WEEK 11. DECEMBER 16-17

Quests: Odysseus; Jason and the Argonauts

Ovid, "The Story of Jason and Medea" (Book VII: lines 1-429) and Homer, *The Odyssey*, Book IX (Odysseus in the Cave of Cyclops) and Book XII (Odysseus on the Island of the Sun)

Hamilton, "The Quest of the Golden Fleece" and "The Adventures of Odysseus"

Recommended: Apollodorus, "Jason and the Argonauts" (Book 1.3) and "The Return of Odysseus" (Book 3.14); Graves on Argonauts and on Odysseus

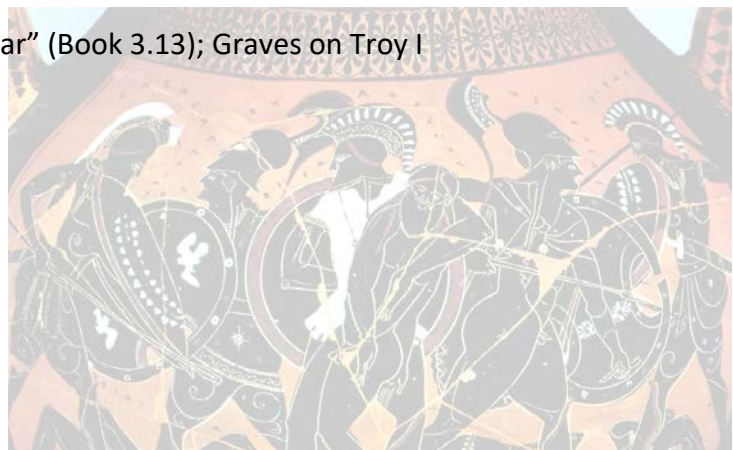
WEEK 12. DECEMBER 23-24

Trojan War and its Heroes I

Homer, *The Illiad*, Book III (The Duel Between Menelaos and Paris) and Book V (The Glory of Diomedes)

Hamilton, "The Trojan War"

Recommended: Apollodorus, "The Trojan War" (Book 3.13); Graves on Troy I



WEEK 13. DECEMBER 30-31 (Response Paper 4)

Trojan War and its Heroes II

Homer, *The Illiad* Book I (The Rage of Achilles) and Book VI (Hector and Andromache Say Goodbye) and Book XXII (The Killing of Hector) and Book XXIV (The Ransom of Hector)

Recommended: Graves on Troy II

WEEK 14. JANUARY 06-07

Conclusion and Discussion

