



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.

Important Note about Course Registration:

Special Approval is required for registration to this course. Please explain your reason for taking this course. Art Theory and Criticism Minor Program and VACD students have priority, followed by students in their graduation year.

Time Conflict requests will not be accepted for this course. For information on registration override requests, [click](#).

Acknowledgement

This syllabus is a contract between the instructor and the student. By taking this course, the student accepts the rules and requirements of the course.

This syllabus may be subject to change. It is the student's responsibility to follow announcements and e-mails regarding all issues related to this course.

Instructor

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

Course Assistant

Anıl Küçüktaka (anil.kucuktaka@sabanciuniv.edu)

Class Schedule

Monday, 15:40-17:30 (FASS 1099)

Wednesday, 13:40-14:30 (FASS 1101)

Office Hours – FASS 2021

Wednesday, 15:00-16:00 or by appointment

Course Requirements

Attendance and participation	20 %
In-class assignments (4 x 5 pts)	20 %
Midterm Exam	25 %
Final Exam	35 %

Exams constitute of around four essay questions as well as image identification. 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 more information, please see Course Information.

Grading

Your letter grade, as well as exam grades, is based on your individual performance. **Requests for extra work or other compensation will not be accepted.** E-mails concerning such requests will not be replied. Letter grades are calculated according to the following letter grade scale and are not open to negotiation.

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 compulsory in this course. Attendance follow-up starts at the end of the add-drop period. Attendance is taken on an hourly basis during all sessions. Failure to attend more than three hours requires points to be taken off the overall grade. Students who miss 9 hours (regardless of medical reports) in total will automatically receive 0 points for Attendance and Participation. For more information, please see Course Information on SuCourse.

Participation (contribution to class discussions, poll participation, 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. Plagiarism is an ethical and academic offense. Papers with plagiarism issues will be graded F, and your semester grade may be F depending on the severity of the offense. The offense may also be referred to as the University Ethics Committee. For information on plagiarism, 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.

Anti-Discrimination Policy

The classroom will be free from all discrimination based on, including but not limited to, race, ethnicity, creed, religion, language, disability, gender, and sexual orientation. The students are expected to maintain this environment.

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](#))



Physical and/or 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 01. OCTOBER 03 – 05

Introduction: Contexts, 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 02. OCTOBER 10 – 12

Art in Classical Greece

WEEK 03. OCTOBER 17 – 19

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 04. OCTOBER 24 – 26 (Reflection Slide 1 due October 30, Sunday, 23:00)

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 05. OCTOBER 31 – NOVEMBER 02

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 06. NOVEMBER 07 – 09

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 07. NOVEMBER 14 – 16 (Reflection Slide 2 due November 12, Saturday, 23:00)

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 08. NOVEMBER 21 – 23 (Midterm Exam)

Olympians: 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)

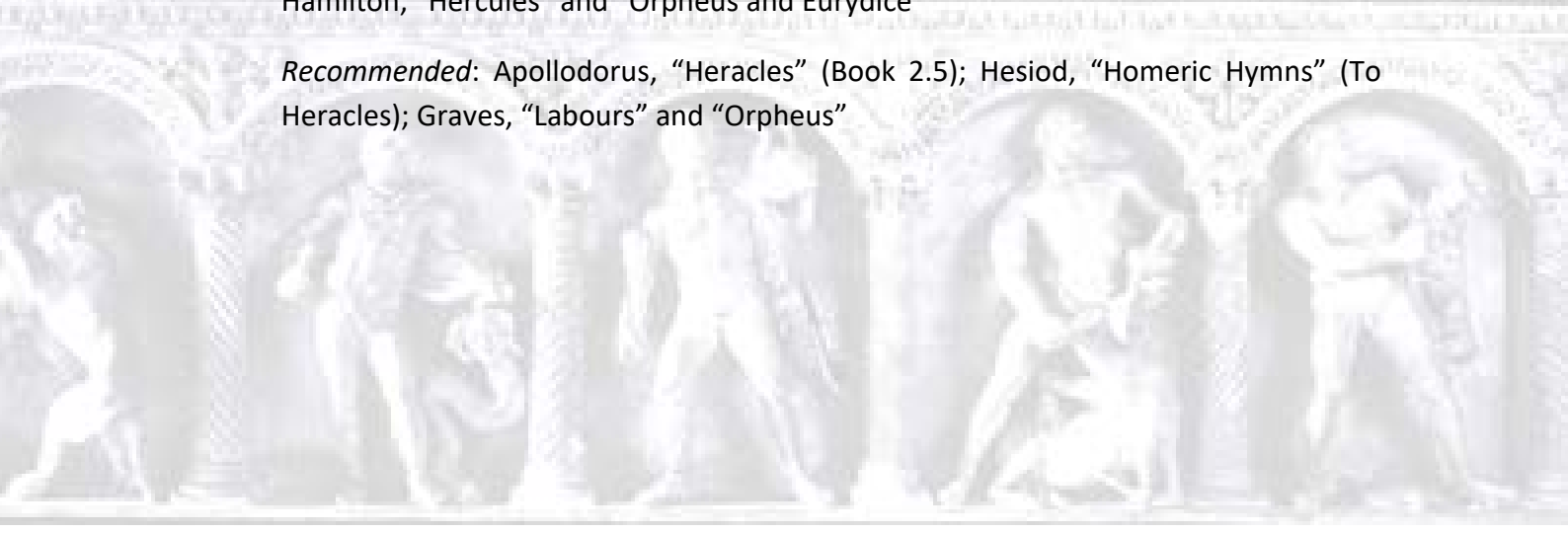
WEEK 09. NOVEMBER 28 – 30

Stories of Mortals and Immortals: Heracles and Orpheus

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

Hamilton, “Hercules” and “Orpheus and Eurydice”

Recommended: Apollodorus, “Heracles” (Book 2.5); Hesiod, “Homeric Hymns” (To Heracles); Graves, “Labours” and “Orpheus”



WEEK 10. DECEMBER 05 – 07

Stories of Mortals and Immortals: Perseus and Theseus

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

Hamilton, "Theseus"

Recommended: Apollodorus, "Perseus" (Book 2.4) and "Theseus" (Book 11); Graves, "Perseus"

WEEK 11. DECEMBER 12 – 14 (Reflection Slide 3 due December 10, Saturday, 23:00)

The Trojan War

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 12. DECEMBER 19 – 21

Trojan War and its Heroes I

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 13. DECEMBER 26 – 28

Trojan War and its Heroes II

Homer, *The Odyssey*, Book IX (Odysseus in the Cave of Cyclops) and Book XI (Odysseus in the Underworld)

Hamilton, "The Adventures of Odysseus"

Recommended: Apollodorus, "The Return of Odysseus" (Book 3.14)

WEEK 14. JANUARY 02 – 04 (Reflection Slide 4 due January 07, Saturday, 23:00)

Conclusion and Discussion

JANUARY 16 – FINAL EXAM

Syllabus updated December 21, 2022.