

CLCV 2103

Greek Religion

WF 2:35 – 3:55, Minto Centre 5050

Yukai Li

yukai.li@carleton.ca

Office Location

Office Hours: TBD

(123) 867-5309

Course description

This course is a broad introduction to religion in the ancient Greek world. The concept of religion under consideration will not be limited to beliefs and doctrines. Instead, we will build up a picture of Greek religion in all its aspects by examining the history of Greek religion from the Neolithic period, the various practices and rituals, the relationship between religion and Greek society, the impact of religion on politics and diplomacy, and the interaction between Greek religion and other areas of intellectual and cultural activity, including literature, science and medicine, and philosophy. Course materials will be drawn from both primary and secondary sources.

Texts and readings

Required text

Burkert, W. 1991. *Greek Religion: Archaic and Classical* (from here abbreviated as GR, ISBN: 9780631156246)

Optional texts

Mikalson, J. D. 2005. *Ancient Greek Religion* (ISBN: 0-631-23223-0)

Price, S. R. F. 1999. *Religions of the Greeks* (ISBN: 0521388678)

Other readings (on library reserve and/or to be distributed as PDFs)

Allen, W. 2004. "The New Gods of Greek Tragedy." *Harvard Studies in Classical Philology* 102: 113-155

Bruit Zaidman, L. and Schmitt Pantel, P. 1992. *Religion in the ancient Greek city*

Detienne, M. and Vernant, J. P. 1989. *The cuisine of sacrifice among the Greeks*

Jackson, R. 1988. *Doctors and diseases in the Roman empire*

Flower, M. A. 2008. *The Seer in Ancient Greece*

Fortson, B. W. 2009. *Indo-European Language and Culture: An Introduction*

- Henrichs, A. 1993. "The tomb of Ajax and the prospect of hero cult in Sophocles." *Classical Antiquity* 12: 165-180
- Lattimore, R. 1951. *The Iliad of Homer*
 — 1967. *The Odyssey of Homer*
- Mikalson, J. D. 2010. *Greek popular religion in Greek philosophy*
- Murray, O. and Price, S. (eds.). 1990. *The Greek city from Homer to Alexander*
- Nilsson, M. P. 1940. *Greek popular religion*
- Ogden, D. (ed.). 2007. *Companion to Greek religion*
- Vernant, J. P. 1982. *The origins of Greek thought*
 — 1990. *Myth and society in ancient Greece*
 — 1991. *Mortals and immortals: collected essays*
 — 2003. *Myth and thought among the Greeks*
- Vernant, J. P. (ed.). 1995. *The Greeks*
- West, M. L. 1999. *Hesiod: Theogony and Works and Days*

Grading

Attendance & participation	10%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final paper	30%
Final Exam	30%

Evaluation guidelines

- The final paper will be on a topic of your choice related to course materials. It will be no more than 8 double spaced pages, not including bibliography, with 1 inch margins and set in 12 point font. Please refer to university guidelines on citation and plagiarism. We will begin talking about the paper just after fall break.
- The exams will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions. The midterm will be during class before fall break, and the final will be during exam period.

Course Policies

- Assigned readings should be completed before the class for which it was assigned. Students should come to class prepared for discussion.
- One unexcused absence during the semester is allowed without penalty. Further absences will result in grade deductions of 2% per class missed.
- Students are responsible for all missed work, regardless of the reason for absence. It is also the absentee's responsibility to get all missing notes or materials.

Course Schedule

* indicates optional readings.

WEDNESDAY	FRIDAY
<p>Sep 6th</p> <p>i. Introductions to Greek religion <i>Readings:</i> none</p>	<p>8th</p> <p>Introductions: Brief history of Greece <i>Readings:</i> none, but begin preparing for next week</p>
<p>13th</p> <p>Introductions: The scope of Greek religion <i>Readings:</i> GR 4-9; Vegetti in Vernant (ed.) 1995 ch. 8 “The Greeks and their gods”</p>	<p>15th</p> <p>ii. Early Greek religions: The Indo-European inheritance <i>Readings:</i> GR 10-19; Fortson 2009, 1-6, 18-34 (optional: rest of chs. 1 and 2)</p>
<p>20th</p> <p>Early Greek religions: <i>Readings:</i> GR 19-53</p>	<p>22nd</p> <p>iii. The Olympian gods: The poetic traditions <i>Readings:</i> selections from Homer, Hesiod, Homeric Hymns</p>
<p>27th</p> <p>The Olympian gods: Field and function <i>Readings:</i> GR 119-170</p>	<p>29th</p> <p>The Olympian gods: What is a god? <i>Readings:</i> GR 170-189; Vernant 1990 ch. 5 “Society of the gods”; *Vernant 1991 ch. 11 “Figure and Functions of Artemis”</p>
<p>Oct 4th</p> <p>The Olympian gods: The new gods <i>Readings:</i> Allen 2004</p>	<p>6th</p> <p>iv. Religion in the city: The idea of the <i>polis</i> <i>Readings:</i> Vernant 1982 ch. 4 “The spiritual universe of the <i>polis</i>”; selections from Homer and lyric poetry</p>
<p>11th</p> <p>Religion in the city: Institutions of <i>polis</i> religion <i>Readings:</i> GR 99-109, 225-275; *Sourvinou-Inwood in Murray and Price (eds.) ch. 12 “What is <i>polis</i> religion?”; Mikalson ch. 6 “Religion of the Greek city-state”; *Scullion in Ogden (ed.) ch. 12 “Festivals”</p>	<p>13th</p> <p>Religion in the city: The civic and the personal <i>Readings:</i> Price ch. 5 “Girls and boys, women and men”; Mikalson ch. 5 “Religion in the Greek family and village”</p>
<p>18th</p> <p>Religion in the city: Divination and the seer <i>Readings:</i> Flower 2008; selections from Herodotus</p>	<p>20th</p> <p>Midterm Exam</p>
<p>25th</p> <p>Fall break</p>	<p>27th</p> <p>Fall break</p>
<p>Nov 1st</p> <p>v. Hero and cult: The hero in myth <i>Readings:</i> GR 192-208; Hesiod <i>Works and Days</i> 106-201; Ekroth in Ogden (ed.) ch. 6 “Heroes and hero-cults”</p>	<p>3rd</p> <p>Hero and cult: The burial of the dead <i>Readings:</i> *Felton in Ogden (ed.) ch. 5 “The dead”; Henrichs 1993; selections from Sophocles <i>Ajax</i></p>

WEDNESDAY	FRIDAY
<p>8th</p> <p>vi. Myth and ritual: Sacrifice <i>Readings:</i> GR 54-73; *Detienne in Detienne and Vernant 1989 ch. 1 “Culinary practices”; Vernant 1991 ch. 17 “General Theory of Sacrifice”</p>	<p>10th</p> <p>Myth and ritual: The Eleusinian mysteries <i>Readings:</i> GR 285-290; Homeric Hymn to Demeter; *Nilsson ch. 3 “The religion of Eleusis”; Mikalson 78-85</p>
<p>15th</p> <p>vii. Mystery cults: <i>Readings:</i> Price ch. 6 “Elective cults”; Vernant 2003 ch. 16 “Some aspects of personal identity”</p>	<p>17th</p> <p>Mystery cults: Bacchus, Orpheus, Pythagoras <i>Readings:</i> GR 290-304</p>
<p>22nd</p> <p>viii. Religion and medicine: Sanctuary healing <i>Readings:</i> Jackson ch. 6 “Gods and their magic”; selection from Aristophanes <i>Wealth</i></p>	<p>24th</p> <p>Religion and medicine: Madness and Hippocratic medicine <i>Readings:</i> Hippocratic corpus, <i>The Sacred Disease</i>, *<i>Illnesses of Maidens</i>; selection from Plato, <i>Phaedrus</i>; Nutton ch. 7, “Religion and medicine”</p>
<p>29th</p> <p>ix. Religion and philosophy: Philosophers on the gods <i>Readings:</i> Mikalson 2010 ch. 6 “Philosophers and the benevolence of the Greek gods”; *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy entry on “Religion and morality,” section 1, “Ancient Greek philosophy”</p>	<p>Dec 1st</p> <p>Religion and philosophy: Positivist reason <i>Readings:</i> Vernant 2003 ch. 17 “Formation of positivist thought”; *IEP article on Descartes</p>
<p>6th</p> <p>Review session</p>	



University Regulations for All Humanities Courses

Copies of Written Work Submitted

Always retain for yourself a copy of all essays, term papers, written assignments or take-home tests submitted in your courses.

Academic Integrity at Carleton

Plagiarism is presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas, or work of others as one's own. Plagiarism includes reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else's published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one's own without proper citation or reference to the original source. Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn from include but are not limited to: books, articles, papers, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, art works, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, and material on the internet. More information can be found on <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/#AIatCU>.

Academic Accommodation Policy

Academic Accommodation

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation: write to the instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details see the [Student Guide](#)

Religious obligation: write to the instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details see the [Student Guide](#)

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at

613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the [PMC website](#) for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable).

Grading System at Carleton University

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor, subject to the approval of the faculty Dean. Standing in courses will be shown by alphabetical grades. The system of grades used, with corresponding grade points and the percentage conversion is below. Grade points indicated are for courses with 1.0 credit value. Where the course credit is greater or less than one credit, the grade points are adjusted proportionately.

[Grading System Chart](#)

Course Sharing Websites and Copyright

Classroom teaching and learning activities, including lectures, discussions, presentations, etc., by both instructors and students, are copy protected and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s). All course materials, including PowerPoint presentations, outlines, and other materials, are also protected by copyright and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s).

Students registered in the course may take notes and make copies of course materials for their own educational use only. Students are not permitted to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly for commercial or non-commercial purposes without express written consent from the copyright holder(s).

Statement on Class Conduct

The Carleton University Human Rights Policies and Procedures affirm that all members of the University community share a responsibility to:

- promote equity and fairness,
- respect and value diversity,
- prevent discrimination and harassment, and

preserve the freedom of its members to carry out responsibly their scholarly work without threat of interference.

Deferred Term Work

In some situations, students are unable to complete term work because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control, which forces them to delay submission of the work.

Students who claim illness, injury or other extraordinary circumstances beyond their control as a reason for missed term work are held responsible for immediately informing the instructor concerned and for making alternate arrangements with the instructor and **in all cases this must occur no later than three (3.0) working days after the term work was due.**

The alternate arrangement must be made before the last day of classes in the term as published in the academic schedule. Normally, any deferred term work will be completed by the last day of term. More information is available [in the calendar](#).

Deferred Exams

Students who do not write/attend a final examination because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control may apply to write a deferred examination.

1. be made in writing to the Registrar's Office **no later than three working days after the original final examination or the due date of the take-home examination;** and
2. be fully supported by appropriate documentation and in cases of illness by a medical certificate dated no later than one working day after the examination or by appropriate documents in other cases. Medical documents must specify the date of the onset of the illness, the (expected) date of recovery, and the extent to which the student was/is incapacitated during the time of the examination. The University's preferred medical form can be found at the Registrar's Office [forms and fees page](#).

The granting of a deferral also requires that the student has performed satisfactorily in the course according to the evaluation scheme established in the Course Outline, excluding the final examination for which deferral privileges are requested. Reasons for denial of a deferral may include, among other conditions, a failure to (i) achieve a minimum score in the course before the final examination; (ii) attend a minimum number of classes; (iii) successfully complete a specific task (e.g. term paper, critical report, group project, computer or other assignment); (iv) complete laboratory work; (v) successfully complete one or more midterms; or (vi) meet other reasonable conditions of successful performance.

More information can be found [in the calendar](#).

Any questions related to deferring a Final Exam or Final Assignment/Take Home Examination should be directed to: [Registrar's Office](#)

Withdrawal From Courses

Withdrawn. No academic credit, no impact on the CGPA.

NEW FALL 2017: WDN is a permanent notation that appears on the official transcript for students who withdraw after the full fee adjustment date in each term. Students may withdraw on or before the last day of classes.

Dates can be found here: <http://calendar.carleton.ca/academicyear/>

Department Contact Information

College of the Humanities 300 Paterson Hall (613)520-2809

CollegeOfHumanities@cunet.carleton.ca

Drop box for CLCV, HUMS LATN GREK Term Papers and assignments is outside 300 P.A.

Greek and Roman Studies 300 Paterson Hall (613)520-2809

GreekAndRomanStudies@cunet.carleton.ca

Drop Box is outside of 300 P.A.

Religion 2A39 Paterson Hall (613)520-2100

Religion@cunet.carleton.ca

Drop box for RELI Term Papers and assignments is outside of 2A39 P.A.

Registrar's Office 300 Tory (613)520-3500

<https://carleton.ca/registrar/>

Student Resources on Campus

[CUKnowHow Website](#)