

CLCV / ENGL 2500; Fall Term  
The College of the Humanities

CLCV/ENGL 2500:  
CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY

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### COURSE OBJECTIVES

One of the most widely known aspects of the Graeco-Roman world is its rich mythological heritage. Its stories about gods and heroes have been retold and recycled throughout the centuries. Many still remain popular. Yet, what do they really tell us about ancient people and how they understood and related to their world? This course will examine a selection of key classical myths from a theoretical and comparative perspective. Students will be expected to critically engage with these stories and place them in a wider historical, social, and cultural context.

### COURSE DELIVERY

Under normal circumstances, this would be a regular course with scheduled weekly lectures and readings, with assignments due periodically throughout the term. However, given that the current context of Covid-19 requires that course content be delivered primarily online, we will be taking a somewhat different approach. Course material is still divided into a series of topics with assigned readings and pre-recorded lectures will be posted online, but students are invited to work through this material at their own pace. This is known as *asynchronous* learning. Still, I strongly advise you to develop a regular work routine and not leave everything to the last minute. Extensions will not be granted based on poor time management. Also, note that CULearn will serve as our course hub, which means that all course content will be made available and all assignments will be submitted there. If you are new to Carleton, please familiarize yourself with that platform.

### OFFICE HOURS

Similarly, I would normally be available several hours per week to discuss course related material on campus, although this too is being disrupted. You can still contact me about course related issues via email (see above), and I will attempt to respond within 24 hours during weekdays, 48 hours during weekends. In addition, I will be setting up virtual office hours each week (*details forthcoming*) for “face to face” discussion.

### TEXTBOOK

Liza Maurizio, *Classical Mythology in Context* (Oxford University Press, 2015) is available from the University Bookstore, amazon.ca, and [www.vitalsource.com](http://www.vitalsource.com).

### EVALUATION

Midterm I (multiple choice on CULearn based <i>only</i> on Modules I-IV)	(20%)
Midterm II (multiple choice on CULearn based <i>only</i> on Modules V-VIII)	(20%)
Case Study I (film or novel—see below)	(20%)
Case Study II (film of novel—see below)	(20%)
Final Exam (multiple choice on CULearn based <i>only</i> on topics IX-XII / Short essay)	(20%)

### TOPICS AND READINGS

## MODULE I: INTRO AND METHODOLOGY

1.1 Course Introduction

1.2 Myth and Methodology (Maurizio 1.1, 1.2, 1.3)

## MODULE II: CREATION STORIES

2.1 Creation Stories I: History / Theory (Maurizio 2.1; 2.2)

2.2 Creation Stories II Comparison / Reception (Maurizio 2.3; 2.4)

Video: The Myth of Prometheus (CULearn)

## MODULE III: ZEUS AND HERA

3.1 Zeus and Hera: History / Theory (Maurizio 3.1; 3.2)

3.2 Zeus and Hera: Comparison / Reception (Maurizio 3.3; 3.4)

## MODULE IV: DEMETER AND HADES

4.1 Demeter and Hades: History / Theory (Maurizio 4.1; 4.2)

4.2 Demeter and Hades: Comparison / Reception (Maurizio 4.3; 4.4)

Video: Orpheus and Eurydice (CULearn)

### **Midterm I (multiple choice on CULearn based on Modules I-IV)**

## MODULE V: APHRODITE, HEPHAESTUS, ARES

5.1 Aphrodite, Hephaestus, Ares: History / Theory (Maurizio 5.1; 5.2)

5.2 Aphrodite, Hephaestus, Ares: Comparison / Reception (Maurizio 5.3; 5.4)

Video: Isis and the Seven Scorpions (CULearn)

## MODULE VI: HERMES AND HESTIA

6.1 Hermes and Hestia: History / Theory (Maurizio 7.1; 7.2)

6.2 Hermes and Hestia: Comparison / Reception (Maurizio 7.3; 7.4)

Video: Pandora's Box (CULearn)

## MODULE VII: ARTEMIS AND APOLLO

7.1 Artemis and Apollo: History / Theory (Maurizio 8.1; 8.2)

7.2 Artemis and Apollo: Comparison / Reception (Maurizio 8.3; 8.4)

## MODULE VIII: DIONYSUS

8.1 Dionysus: History / Theory (Maurizio 9.1; 9.2)

8.2 Dionysus: Comparison / Reception (Maurizio 9.3; 9.4)

Video: The Bacchae (CULearn)

### **Midterm II (multiple choice on CULearn based on Modules V-VIII)**

## MODULE IX: ACHILLES

9.1 Achilles: History / Theory (Maurizio 10.1; 10.2)

9.2 Achilles: Comparison / Reception (Maurizio 10.3; 10.4)

Video: Theatre of War (CULearn)

## MODULE X: MEDEA

10.1 Medea: History / Theory (Maurizio 11.1; 11.2)

10.2 Medea: Comparison / Reception (Maurizio 11.3; 11.4)

Video: Euripides' *Medea* (CULearn)

## MODULE XI: ODYSSEUS

11.1 Odysseus: History / Theory (Maurizio 12.1; 12.2)

11.2 Odysseus: Comparison / Reception (Maurizio 12.3; 12.4)

Video: What makes a hero? (CULearn)

## MODULE XII: IPHIGENEIA

12.1 Iphigeneia: History / Comparison (Maurizio 13.1; 13.3)

Video: Myth of Cupid and Psyche (CULearn)

**CASE STUDIES I & II (to be submitted via CULearn by Dec 11)**

One of the goals of this course is to understand the on-going reception and re-interpretation of classical myths. This is particularly apparent in modern films and written works, which regularly re-use and recycle stories and themes from the ancient world. For this assignment, you are required to produce two **case studies** based on a modern film (case study #1) and a written work (case study #2) in which you will analyze the work based on the concepts and methods acquired in the course. Choose from the list below (\*no substitutions\*), then acquire a copy from an online platform or library. NB: You must write one case study on a film and another on a written work. It doesn't matter which order you complete them.

Once you've read or viewed your chosen work, write a four-page (double spaced) analysis using specific concepts and themes from the course material. You are not commenting on elements such as production value or literary style, but rather critically analysing the use of mythological content in the work. Also, you do **not** have to do any additional research to complete the assignment.

As you are reading or watching, you might want to reflect on some of the following questions: What sort of mythological universe is presented in the work? Is it based on an ancient model or invented? What are its central mythological themes / elements? What is the function of those themes / elements? Are those themes / elements used effectively or ineffectively? What theoretical approaches might be useful in interpreting these mythic elements? Can you make comparisons with other myths you've learned about? NB: These questions are not a template for how your paper should be structured, but are meant to get you thinking before writing!

Your paper should contain the following elements:

Length: 4-pages double spaced (not including title page). It can be longer but not shorter than 4 pages!

Presentation: typed, double-spaced, 12-point font, standard margins, title-page (w/ name and student #)

Style: standard English grammar, spelling, and syntax

Organization: information should be structured and presented in a clear and readable manner

Analysis: course concepts have been understood and effectively applied

References in your paper should only be to material from the textbook, which can be given in parenthetical form (ex. Maurizio p. 100) or to specific parts of the chosen film, which can be indicated by the timecode (ex. The Hobbit 1:02) or the written work (ex. Ilium p. 253). No bibliography or "works cited" is required.

*\*Late assignments will be accepted after Dec 11 until the date of the final exam with a 10% deduction off the value of the assignment for each day, unless an extension has been granted.*

*\*\*Assignments containing any plagiarized material will get zero.*

<b>FILMS</b>	<b>WRITTEN WORKS</b>
Black Orpheus (1959) Jason and the Argonauts (1963) Clash of the Titans (1981 or 2010) Nausicaa of the Valley of the Winds (1984) O Brother Where Art Thou? (2000) Troy (2004) Pan's Labyrinth (2006) Percy Jackson and the Olympians (2010) Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (2013) Thor (2011) Wonder Woman (2017) Any Star Wars film Any LOTR film <i>*Instead of a film, you may choose to write about mythology used in gaming (ex. MTG, WoW, etc). This option must be approved by me.</i>	Shakespeare, <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> Rilke, <i>Sonnets to Orpheus</i> (1922) Tolkien, <i>The Hobbit</i> (1937) C.S. Lewis, <i>Till We Have Faces</i> (1956) Rick Riordan, <i>The Lightning Thief</i> (2005) Margaret Atwood, <i>The Penelopiad</i> (2005) Dan Simmons, <i>Ilium</i> (2003) Emily Whitman, <i>Radiant Darkness</i> (2009) Madeline Miller, <i>The Song of Achilles</i> (2011) Neil Gaiman, <i>American Gods</i> (2001) Marie Phillips, <i>Gods Behaving Badly</i> (2007) * <i>Heathen</i> (2017) * <i>Promethea</i> (2001) * <i>The Wicked + The Divine</i> (2014-2019) *graphic novels



# Humanities

## University Regulations for All College of the Humanities Courses

### Academic Dates and Deadlines

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This schedule contains the dates prescribed by the University Senate for academic activities. Dates relating to fee payment, cancellation of course selections, late charges, and other fees or charges will be published in the Important Dates and Deadlines section of the Registration Website.

### Copies of Written Work Submitted

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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

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The University Senate defines **plagiarism** as “*presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.*” This can include:

- 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;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs."

Plagiarism is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly by the course’s instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of "F" for the course

[Academic Integrity Policy](#)

[Academic Integrity Process](#)

# Academic Accommodation Policy

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## Academic Accommodation

Carleton University is committed to providing access to the educational experience in order to promote academic accessibility for all individuals.

**Parental Leave:** The Student Parental Leave Policy is intended to recognize the need for leave at the time of a pregnancy, birth or adoption and to permit a pause in studies in order to provide full-time care in the first year of parenting a child or for health-related parental responsibilities.

**Religious obligation:** Carleton University accommodates students who, by reason of religious obligation, must miss an examination, test, assignment deadline, laboratory or other compulsory academic event.

### **Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:**

Academic accommodation of students with disabilities is available through the [Paul Menton Centre](#) by evaluations that are carried out on an individual basis, in accordance with human rights legislation and University policy, and with the support of relevant, professional/medical documentation.

### **Survivors of Sexual Violence**

Individuals who disclose that they have experienced sexual violence will be provided support services and will be treated with dignity and respect at all times by the University and its representatives. A person affected by sexual violence is not required to report an incident of or make a complaint about sexual violence under the formal complaint process of the Sexual Violence Policy in order to obtain support and services, or in order to receive appropriate accommodation for their needs.

[Supports and services available at the University to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support.](#)

### **Accommodation for Student Activities**

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. [More information.](#)

# Grading System at Carleton University

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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. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean."

The [system of grades](#) used, with corresponding grade points and the percentage conversion, is listed below. Grade points indicated are for courses with 1.0 credit value.

## Course Sharing Websites and Copyright

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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).

[More information](#)

## Student Rights and Responsibilities at Carleton

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Carleton University strives to provide a safe environment conducive to personal and intellectual growth, free of injustice and characterized by understanding respect, peace, trust, and fairness.

The [Student Rights and Responsibilities Policy](#) governs the non-academic behaviour of students. Carleton University is committed to building a campus that promotes personal growth through the establishment and promotion of transparent and fair academic and non-academic responsibilities.

[7 Student Rights and Responsibilities](#)

## Deferred Term Work

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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.

1. 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. In all cases, formative evaluations providing feedback to the student should be replaced with formative evaluations. In the event the altered due date must extend beyond the last day of classes in the term, the instructor will assign a grade of zero for the work not submitted and submit the student's earned grade accordingly; the instructor may submit a change of grade at a later date. Term work cannot be deferred by the Registrar.

2. In cases where a student is not able to complete term work due to illness or injury for a significant period of time/or long term, the instructor and/or student may elect to consult with the Registrar's Office (undergraduate courses) or Graduate Registrar (graduate courses) to determine appropriate action.

[More information of deferred Term Work](#)

## Deferred Final Exams

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Students who are unable to write a final examination because of a serious illness/emergency or other circumstances beyond their control may apply for accommodation. Normally, the accommodation for a missed final examination will be granting the student the opportunity to write a deferred examination. In specific cases when it is not possible to offer a deferred examination, and with the approval of the Dean, an alternate accommodation may be made.

The application for a deferral must:

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 [here](#).

[More information on Final Exam Deferrals](#)

## [Financial vs. Academic Withdrawal](#)

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Withdrawn. No academic credit, no impact on the CGPA. WDN is a permanent notation that appears on the official transcript for students who withdraw after the full fee adjustment date in each term (noted in the Academic Year section of the Calendar each term). Students may withdraw on or before the last day of classes.

Important dates can be found [here](#). Make sure that you are aware of the separate deadlines for Financial and Academic withdrawal!

Making registration decisions in Carleton Central involves making a financial and academic commitment for the courses you choose, regardless of attendance. If you do not attend – you must withdraw in Carleton Central within the published deadlines to cancel your registration. You can do this via the [MyCarleton Portal](#). A fee adjustment is dependent on registration being canceled within the published [fee deadlines](#) and dependent on your course load.

## Department Contact Information

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*Bachelor of the Humanities* 300 Paterson Hall  
[CollegeOfHumanities@cunet.carleton.ca](mailto:CollegeOfHumanities@cunet.carleton.ca)

*Greek and Roman Studies* 300 Paterson Hall  
[GreekAndRomanStudies@cunet.carleton.ca](mailto:GreekAndRomanStudies@cunet.carleton.ca)

*Religion* 2A39 Paterson Hall  
[Religion@cunet.carleton.ca](mailto:Religion@cunet.carleton.ca)

*Digital Humanities (Graduate)* 2A39 Paterson Hall  
[digitalhumanities@carleton.ca](mailto:digitalhumanities@carleton.ca)

*Digital Humanities (Undergraduate Minor)* 300 Paterson Hall  
[digitalhumanities@carleton.ca](mailto:digitalhumanities@carleton.ca)

*MEMS (Undergraduate Minor)* 300 Paterson Hall  
[CollegeOfHumanities@cunet.carleton.ca](mailto:CollegeOfHumanities@cunet.carleton.ca)