

CLCV / ENGL 2500; Summer Term
The College of the HumanitiesCLCV/ENGL 2500:
CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY

Dr. Timothy Pettipiece

Course Email: Timothy.Pettipiece@carleton.ca**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

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 of these tales still remain popular. Yet, what do they really tell us about ancient people and how they understood and related to their world? How have they been received and reinterpreted over the centuries? 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.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- students will learn how to read myths in historical and cultural contexts
- students will engage with key methodological frameworks for the interpretation of myth
- students will explore the reception history of mythological narratives
- students will apply concepts in the course to a piece of popular culture

COURSE DELIVERY

This course will be delivered *asynchronously* online. Course material has been divided into a series of topics with assigned readings and pre-recorded lectures, which students are invited to work through at their own pace, although exams and assignments have established due dates. 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 Brightspace will serve as our course hub, which means that all course content will be made available and all assignments will be submitted there. **NB: We will not be having weekly live lectures at a scheduled time.**

COMMUNICATION

You can contact me about course related issues via email (see above), and I will do my best to respond within 24 hours during weekdays, 48 hours during weekends. I am also available for virtual office hours by appointment

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

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

EVALUATION

Midterm I (multiple choice on Brightspace based <i>only</i> on Modules I-IV: May 23-30)	(20%)
Midterm II (multiple choice on Brightspace based <i>only</i> on Modules V-VIII: June 6-13)	(20%)
Case Study (film or novel—see below: due May 27)	(15%)
Case Study (film or novel—see below: due June 17)	(15%)
Final Exam (multiple choice on Brightspace based <i>only</i> on topics IX-XII / short essay: June 20-26)	(20%)
Virtual Discussion Groups (see below)	(10%)

NOTE ON MIDTERMS AND DUE DATES

Written assignments (Case Study I and II) are due May 27 and June 17. However, you can submit them before that date if you choose. Late assignments will be accepted with a 10% deduction per day. As for the midterms, they will be made available on May 23 and June 6. You will then have 7 days to complete them at your convenience within a pre-determined time window.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Please familiarize yourself with Carleton's [academic integrity policy](#). Course components containing any

plagiarized or copied material will receive an automatic zero and be referred to university administration.

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 (Brightspace)

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 (Brightspace)

Midterm I (multiple choice on Brightspace based on Modules I-IV: available May 23-30)

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 (Brightspace)

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 (Brightspace)

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 (Brightspace)

Midterm II (multiple choice on Brightspace based on Modules V-VIII: available June 6-13)

MODULE IX: MEDEA

- 9.1 Medea: History / Theory (Maurizio 11.1; 11.2)
- 9.2 Medea: Comparison / Reception (Maurizio 11.3; 11.4)
- Video: Euripides' *Medea* (Brightspace)

MODULE X: ACHILLES

- 10.1 Achilles: History / Theory (Maurizio 10.1; 10.2)
- 10.2 Achilles: Comparison / Reception (Maurizio 10.3; 10.4)
- Video: Theatre of War (Brightspace)

MODULE XI: HEROINES

- 11.1 Iphigeneia: History / Comparison (Maurizio 13.1; 13.3)
- Video: Antigone in Ferguson Minidocumentary / Dramatic Reading (Brightspace)

MODULE XII: NEW HEROES

- 12.1 Thecla (Maurizio 13.2; 13.3)

CASE STUDIES (to be submitted via Brightspace by May 27 and June 17)

One of the goals of this course is to understand the on-going reception and re-interpretation of classical myths, as well as learning to appreciate the on-going presence of mythology in modern culture. 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**: one based on a modern film or game (case study #1) and a second based on a written work or graphic novel (case study #2). Each of these “case studies” will be based solely on the concepts and methods learned in the course and will require no additional research.

STEP 1: Choose a topic from the lists below (*no substitutions*), then acquire a copy from an online platform or library. Challenge yourself! Try to select something you haven’t seen or read before. Note: You must write one case study on a film or game and another on a written work. It doesn’t matter which order you complete them.

STEP 2: Watch the film, play the game, or read the book. As you do this, think of the key concepts and interpretive approaches you’ve been learning in the course. It’s a good idea to take notes as you do this.

STEP 3: Organize your thoughts. As you consider the film or book, 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 is it newly invented? What are some of its central mythological themes / elements? What is the function of those themes / elements? Are those themes / elements used effectively or ineffectively? What theoretical approaches learned in the course might be useful in interpreting the use of these mythic elements? NB: These questions are not a template for how your paper should be structured, but rather are meant to get you thinking before writing!

STEP 4: Write your case study. Once you’ve engaged with your source and reflected on it, put your thoughts into writing.

A few things to keep in mind...

-You are not writing a “book report”: You are not just summarizing the storyline, but rather you are identifying specific mythological elements and analyzing them using concepts and approaches learned in the course.

-You are not writing a “film review”: You are not commenting on elements such as production value, performance, literary style, or merits as a work of art. Rather, you are analysing and interpreting the use of mythological content in the work based on course material. You don’t even have to like the work in question!

-You are not writing an “argumentative essay”: You are not trying to prove or disprove a central thesis or argument. You are identifying specific mythological elements from the world and interpreting them using concepts from the course.

Your final 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

File format: papers must be uploaded to Brightspace in .pdf format

REFERENCES

Your paper **must** contain references to your source material. It doesn’t matter if you’re paraphrasing or providing a direct quotation, you must still indicate where the information came from. This particular assignment should only contain three types of references:

1) references to the textbook can be given in parenthetical form, ex. (Maurizio p. 100)

2) references to specific parts of the chosen film can be indicated by the timecode, ex. (The Hobbit 1:02) or the written work (Ilium p. 253) (*Games present a special problem since there isn't usually a specific way to reference in-game content*).

3) references to material from the lectures, ex. (Module 3.2).

NB: No bibliography or "works cited" is required at the end of your paper.

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

FILMS	WRITTEN WORKS
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) 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, Dark Souls 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) 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) Jennifer Saint, <i>Ariadne</i> (2021) <i>*Heathen</i> (2017) <i>*Promethea</i> (2001) <i>*The Wicked + The Divine</i> (2014-2019) <i>*graphic novels</i>

VIRTUAL DISCUSSION GROUPS (Online / 10%)

In order to help you prepare for your case study assignments, the TAs for the course will be holding small virtual discussion groups throughout the term at various times. These online sessions will be an opportunity to discuss mythical elements of some of the films and written works from the lists provided. To earn the full 10% for the component you should participate in 2 sessions. Space for each session will be limited, so please limit yourself to two sessions. Details about dates, times, and sign up will be provided. (*NB: This component may be subject to revision based on class size and TA resources*).



Humanities

University Regulations for All College of the Humanities Courses

Academic Dates and Deadlines

[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.

Online Learning Resources

While online courses offer flexibility and convenience, they also present unique challenges that traditional face-to-face courses do not. [On this page](#), you will find resources collected by Carleton Online to help you succeed in your online courses; Learning Strategies and Best Practices, Study Skills, Technology and Online Interaction and Engagement.

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 Policy (updated June 2021)

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, material on the internet and/or conversations.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- any submission prepared in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, paraphrased material, algorithms,

formulae, scientific or mathematical concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;

- using another's data or research findings without appropriate acknowledgement;
- submitting a computer program developed in whole or in part by someone else, with or without modifications, as one's own; and
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another's work and/or failing to use quotations marks.

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

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

Academic accommodation refers to educational practices, systems and support mechanisms designed to accommodate diversity and difference. The purpose of accommodation is to enable students to perform the essential requirements of their academic programs. At no time does academic accommodation undermine or compromise the learning objectives that are established by the academic authorities of the University.

Addressing Human Rights Concerns

The University and all members of the University community share responsibility for ensuring that the University's educational, work and living environments are free from discrimination and harassment. Should you have concerns about harassment or discrimination relating to your age, ancestry, citizenship, colour, creed (religion), disability, ethnic origin, family status, gender expression, gender identity, marital status, place of origin, race, sex (including pregnancy), or sexual orientation, please contact the [Department of Equity and Inclusive Communities](#).

Requests for Academic Accommodation

You may need special arrangements to meet your [academic obligations](#) during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

Religious Accommodation

Please contact your 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, please review the [Student Guide to Academic Accommodation](#).

Pregnancy Accommodation

Please contact your 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, please review the [Student Guide to Academic Accommodation](#).

Survivors of Sexual Violence

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and where survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit the [Equity and Inclusive Communities website](#).

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. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your 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 [Senate Policy on Accommodation for Student Activities](#).

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC 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 your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. For more details, visit the [Paul Menton Centre website](#).

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 can be found [here](#). 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.

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).
[More information](#)

Student Rights and Responsibilities at Carleton

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.

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.

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) 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.
3. If a student is concerned the instructor did not respond to the request for academic accommodation or did not provide reasonable accommodation, the student should consult with the department/school/institute chair/director. If a mutually agreeable accommodation to complete course requirements prior to the course grade submission deadline cannot be achieved, the Associate Dean will become involved. If academic accommodation is not granted, and the student receives word **after** the academic withdrawal deadline, the student may submit a petition to the Registrar's Office (undergraduate courses)/Graduate Registrar (graduate courses) for a final grade of WDN (Withdrawn) in the course(s). If academic

accommodation is not granted, and the student receives word **prior** to the academic withdrawal deadline, the student may elect to withdraw from the course(s).

4. Furthermore, if academic accommodation is granted, but the student is unable to complete the accommodation according to the terms set out by the instructor as a result of further illness, injury or extraordinary circumstances beyond their control, the student may submit a petition to the Registrar's Office (undergraduate courses)/Graduate Registrar (graduate courses). Please note, however, that the course instructor will be required to submit an earned final grade and further consideration will only be reviewed according to established precedents and deadlines. [More information of deferred Term Work](#)

Deferred Final Exams

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 Registrar's Office "Defer an Exam" page](#)

Financial vs. Academic Withdrawal

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. A fee adjustment is dependent on registration being canceled within the published [fee deadlines](#) and dependent on your course load. A course dropped after the deadline for financial withdrawal will receive a grade of Withdrawn (WDN), which appears on your official transcript.

Even if you miss the deadline for financial withdrawal, you might decide to drop a course to avoid a failure or a poor grade showing up on your student record and bringing down your CGPA. It is your responsibility to drop the course via Carleton Central within the published [deadlines](#) (see Academic Withdrawal).

If you are considering withdrawing from a course, you may want to talk to an advisor first. Course withdrawal may affect your student status, as well as your eligibility for student funding, immigration status, residence accommodation and participation in varsity sports, etc. Additionally, remember that once you choose your courses, you must use the “Calculate amount to pay” button to determine the correct amount of fees to pay.

Carleton Central is your one-stop shop for registration activities. If you are interested in taking a course, make sure to complete your registration. Simply attending a course does not mean you are registered in it, nor is it grounds for petition or appeal.

Department Contact Information

Bachelor of the Humanities 300 Paterson Hall
CollegeOfHumanities@cunet.carleton.ca

Greek and Roman Studies 300 Paterson Hall
GreekAndRomanStudies@cunet.carleton.ca

Religion 2A39 Paterson Hall
Religion@cunet.carleton.ca

Digital Humanities (Graduate) 2A39 Paterson Hall
digitalhumanities@carleton.ca

Digital Humanities (Undergraduate Minor) 300 Paterson Hall
digitalhumanities@carleton.ca

MEMS (Undergraduate Minor) 300 Paterson Hall
CollegeOfHumanities@cunet.carleton.ca