SYLLABUS – CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY (CC f303 - #81565)

The purpose of this course is to familiarize students in depth with the major myths of Ancient Greece, which have proven so influential on art, literature, and popular imagination in Rome, Renaissance and Baroque Europe, and even the contemporary world. We shall examine the various cultural influences that shaped and transformed these stories, as well as the way that gods and heroes were embedded in religious cult and ritual. Students will also be afforded the opportunity to learn about major theories of interpretation. The format of the course will center around daily lectures, but questions and discussion are encouraged.

This course carries the Global Cultures flag. Global Cultures courses are designed to increase your familiarity with cultural groups outside the United States. You should therefore expect a substantial portion of your grade to come from assignments covering the practices, beliefs, and histories of at least one non-U.S. cultural group, past or present.

PART ONE: THE OLYMPIAN GODS
June 4 - "The Nature of Myths and their Interpretation: The Case of the Greeks"
June 5 - "Who Were the Greeks?"
  Reading: Csapo, *Theories* (pp. 1-36)
June 8 - "Zeus and the Establishment of Power"
  Reading: Hesiod, *Theogony*; Handbook: Zeus, Prometheus, Typhoeus, Lycaon, Baucis and Philemon, Deucalion
June 9 - "Hera and the Preservation of Marital Order"
  Reading: Handbook: Io, Europa, Antiope, Leda, Semele, Ganymede, Thetis, Hera
June 10 - "Poseidon and the Realm of the Sea"
  Reading: Handbook: Poseidon, Nereus, Nereids, Amphitrite, Amymone, Melanippe, Polyphemus
June 11 - "Hades, Death, and the Underworld"
  Reading: Handbook: Hades (1) & (2), Persephone, Sisyphus, Tantalus, Ixion, Tityus, Danaus, Charon, chthonian deities, Erinyes, Fates
June 12 - "Demeter -- from 'Great Mother' to the Eleusinian Mysteries"
  Reading: Handbook: Demeter, Triptolemus, Plutus, Erysichthon (2)
June 15 - "The Delian Twins: Apollo and Artemis"
  Reading: Handbook: Apollo, Leto, Niobe, Asclepius, Daphne, Hyacinth, Python, Cyrene, Aristaeus, Admetus, Artemis, Hecate, Selene, Endymion, Actaeon, Orion, Callisto, Oeneus, Calydonian Boar Hunt, Meleager, Althaea
June 16 - "Athena and the Varieties of Technical Intelligence"
  Reading: Handbook: Athena, Metis (1), Erichthonius (1), Arachne
June 17 - "Aphrodite and the Erotic Impulse"
Reading: *Handbook: Aphrodite, Eos, Dione, Anchises, Cinyras, Myrrha, Adonis, Atalanta, Eros, Hephaestus, Ares; Csapo, Theories* (pp. 262-76)

June 18 - "Hermes, the God of Transition -- Messenger, Thief, Magician"
Reading: *Handbook: Hermes, Maia, Hermaphroditus, Pan, Hestia; Csapo, Theories* (pp. 161-171)

June 19 - "Dionysus and the Advent of Ecstatic Religion"
Reading: *Handbook: Dionysus, Maenads, Satyrs, Seilenus, Lycurgus (1), Pentheus, Icarius (2); Euripides, Bacchae*

June 22 – MIDTERM EXAM

PART TWO: GREEK HEROIC SAGA

June 23 - "Orpheus and Orphism: The Musician as Suffering Hero"
Reading: *Handbook: Orpheus, Linus, Orphism*

June 24 - "The Heroic Monomyth: Perseus and Bellerophon"
Reading: *Handbook: Perseus, Gorgons, Medusa, Graeae, Andromeda, Bellerophon, Proetus, Pegasus; Csapo, Theories* (pp. 80-103)

June 25 - "The Labors and Sufferings of Heracles"
Reading: *Handbook: Heracles, Amphitryon, Eurystheus, Iphicles, Iolau, Deianeira; Csapo, Theories* (pp. 301-15)

June 26 - "Theseus and Athenian Nationalism"
Reading: *Handbook: Athens, Cecrops, Erichthonius (1), Aegeus, Theseus, Minos, Pasiphae, Ariadne, Hippolytus (1); Csapo, Theories* (pp. 237-44)

June 29 - "The House of Cadmus and the Oedipus Myth"
Reading: *Handbook: Thebes, Cadmus, Laius, Oedipus, Jocasta, Creon (1), Eteocles (1), Polyneices, Antigone, Seven Against Thebes, Epigonoi*

June 30 – "Freud, Sophocles, and Oedipus"
Reading: Sophocles, *Oedipus the King; Csapo, Theories* (pp. 103-110)

July 1 - "Another Case of Family Conflict: The House of Pelops"
Reading: *Handbook: Pelops, Broteas, Atreus, Agamemnon, Orestes, Electra (1), Iphigeneia*

July 2 - "The Prehistory and Early Stages of the Trojan War"
Reading: *Handbook: Troy, Trojan War*

July 3 – "Mortals and Immortals in the Iliad"
Reading: Homer, *Iliad*, Books 1, 2 (pp. 35-51), 3

July 6 - "Mythological Paradigms in the Iliad"
Reading: Homer, *Iliad*, Books 5, 6, 9

July 7 - "The Return of the Hero"
Reading: Homer, *Iliad*, Books 14, 16, 18-19

July 8 - "The Iliad as an Epic Plot"
Reading: Homer, *Iliad*, Books 22, 24

July 9 - "The Fall of Troy and the Returns"
Reading: *Handbook: Ajax (1), Philoctetes, Memnon, Penthesileia, Neoptolemus, Ajax (2), Menelaus, Odysseus*
July 11 (7-10 PM) – FINAL EXAMINATION

The final grade for CC 303 will be based on one midterm examinations (30%), a final examination (40%), class participation and attendance (10%), and five short quizzes, which will usually be announced in the previous class (20%). The lowest quiz grade will be dropped. Quizzes may not be taken at a later date, but examinations may be with a physician’s letter documenting absence due to a legitimate medical reason. Students also have the option of writing an extra-credit paper of about five pages on a topic which will be explained later (up to 5% extra credit).

Scholastic dishonesty in any form, which includes copying material from another student's test paper or handing in work that is not exclusively one's own, will be punished by failure of the course and a referral to the Dean of Students. Even if you have gotten away with it before, we are experienced in this area and do have ways of detecting it, so don't do it. Any students who request special accommodation due to a disability (see http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/) or observance of a religious holiday (see http://www.utexas.edu/provost/policies/religious_holidays/) are asked to identify themselves to the instructor during the first two weeks of class; every reasonable effort will be made to help.

Required Texts:
E. Tripp, Meridian Handbook of Classical Mythology (Penguin)
E. Csapo, Theories of Mythology (Wiley-Blackwell)
S. Lombardo (tr.), Hesiod: Works and Days, Theogony (Hackett)
P. Woodruff (tr.), Euripides: Bacchae (Hackett)
R. Fagles (tr.), Sophocles: The Three Theban Plays (Penguin)
R. Fitzgerald (tr.), Homer: The Iliad (Anchor)