ARTS2542 Course Outline

School of Humanities and Languages

ARTS2542: Gods, Heroines and Heroes in Greek Myth
Summer Term, 2016

1. Course Staff and Contact Details 2
2. Course Details 2-3
3. Learning and Teaching Rationale 4
4. Teaching Strategies 4
5. Course Assessment 4-5
6. Extension of Time for Submission of Assessment Tasks 6
7. Attendance 6
8. Class Clash 7
9. Academic Honesty and Plagiarism 7
10. Course Schedule 8-10
11. Course Resources 10-12
12. Course Evaluation and Development 12
13. Student Support 12
14. Grievances 12
15. Other Information 12-13
1. Course Staff and Contact Details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Convenor</td>
<td>Dr Efrosini Deligianni</td>
<td>MB270</td>
<td><a href="mailto:e.deligianni@unsw.edu.au">e.deligianni@unsw.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
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<td>MB277</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dr Vassilis Adrahtas</td>
<td>MB277</td>
<td><a href="mailto:v.adrahtas@unsw.edu.au">v.adrahtas@unsw.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tutors</td>
<td>Dr Dominic Fitzsimmons</td>
<td>The Learning and Teaching Centre</td>
<td><a href="mailto:d.fitzsimmons@unsw.edu.au">d.fitzsimmons@unsw.edu.au</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Course Details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Units of Credit (UoC)</th>
<th>6</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Description</td>
<td>PART I: The Greek myths have had a profound and lasting influence on our culture. Partly because the way they comment on the human condition is very adaptable, they continue to be a major source of inspiration to contemporary artists, philosophers, writers and film-makers. An understanding of this influence greatly enhances our appreciation of modern culture. This course introduces students to the nature of myth, to the creation myths, the stories of the gods and their interaction with humans, and to some of the great cycles like Oedipus, the Trojan War and Orpheus. Reference will be made to more recent works of art and literature inspired by the stories. PART II: Students will study Homer's Odyssey in Fagles' translation. This epic poem is one of the earliest and greatest examples of literature inspired by myth, and has continued to influence work in many fields down to the present day. We will examine the Odyssey in relation to its historical context, its sources in myth, and its creator's technique as poet and storyteller.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Course Aims           | 1. to introduce students to a collection of mythical stories and to Homer's Odyssey  
|                       | 2. to enable students to appreciate the reasons why time after time these products of ancient imagination inspired and continue to inspire fresh creative efforts, which amount to a substantial part or our cultural heritage  
|                       | 3. to understand the relevance of Greek myths to ways of thinking in the west  
|                       | 4. to appreciate the social and intellectual context of ancient Greek culture as reflected through the Greek myths and... |
### Student Learning Outcomes

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Appreciate the profound and lasting influence of Greek myth on our modern culture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Appreciate the contemporary significance and relevance of the recurring themes in Greek myth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Gain an insight into the individual and social psyche</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Enhance an appreciation of the world of art, literature and music</td>
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### Graduate Attributes

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>the skill involved in scholarly enquiry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>the capacity for analytical and critical thinking, and for creative problem solving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>the ability to engage in independent and reflective learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>the skills of effective communication</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. **Learning and Teaching Rationale**

Lectures, tutorial discussions, video presentations and readings will take the students through the fascinating world of Greek mythology and Ancient Greek society and culture. Students will be introduced to the nature and the creation of myths. They will be familiarised with the stories of the gods and their interaction with humans, as well as with some of the great mythical cycles, like Oedipus, the Trojan War and Orpheus. Students will also study Homer’s *Odyssey*, one of the earliest and greatest examples of literature inspired by myth, whose influence in every artistic expression is constantly felt up to this day. All tutorials will be conducted by an experienced team of tutors, who will attempt to engage students in discussions, taking the students’ interests and their disciplinary background into consideration.

4. **Teaching Strategies**

The lectures provide the basic material required for the written assignment, tutorials and tests. Students are expected to have read Homer’s *Odyssey* in Fagles’ translation prior to the start of classes. In addition, students are required to read further so as to obtain a deeper understanding and formulate a critical approach to the topics and themes covered in the lecture. This scholarly enquiry satisfies aspects of the University Graduate Attributes outlined above. All classes are through face-to-face mode. It is strongly advised that students attend all lectures.

For the tutorials the students are also required to study the set written and visual texts prescribed in the Tutorial Reader, which is available via Moodle. Each text comes with a series of questions, which provide the framework for the tutorial discussion. The classroom discussion fulfills an important component of the above University Graduate Attributes, and it should be stimulating and rewarding for the student’s intellectual development. The take-home essay, the two in-class reflective writing exercises and two in-class tests will allow the students to consolidate the ideas and concepts that they have learnt, and also help them develop their independent, critical and reflective thinking. Again these activities satisfy aspects of the University Graduate Attributes outlined above. **As the course is brief and intensive, attendance is essential.**

5. **Course Assessment**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Task</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Learning Outcomes Assessed</th>
<th>Graduate Attributes Assessed</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In-class test I</td>
<td>1 hour</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>1,2,3,4</td>
<td>2,3,4</td>
<td>2pm Thu 07 Jan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-class test II</td>
<td>1 hour</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>1,2,3,4</td>
<td>2,3,4</td>
<td>2pm Thu 14 Jan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take-home assignment</td>
<td>1600-1800 words</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>1,2,3,4</td>
<td>1,2,3,4</td>
<td>4pm Fri 22 Jan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tutorial work</td>
<td>see Tutorial Reader</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>1,2,3,4</td>
<td>2,3,4</td>
<td>during each tutorial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reflective writing task</td>
<td>600 words</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>1,2,3,4</td>
<td>2,3,4</td>
<td>3pm Fri 15 Jan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Please Note: The Arts and Social Sciences Protocols and Guidelines state:

A student who attends less than 80% of the classes/activities and has not submitted appropriate supporting documentation to the Course Authority to explain their absence may be awarded a grade of UF (Unsatisfactory Fail).

The Attendance Guidelines can be found in full at: https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/Protocols-Guidelines/

Grades

All results are reviewed at the end of each semester and may be adjusted to ensure equitable marking across the School.

The proportion of marks lying in each grading range is determined not by any formula or quota system, but by the way that students respond to assessment tasks and how well they meet the objectives of the course. Nevertheless, since higher grades imply performance that is well above average, the number of distinctions and high distinctions awarded in a typical course is relatively small. At the other extreme, on average 6.1% of students do not meet minimum standards and a little more (8.6%) in first year courses. For more information on the grading categories see: https://student.unsw.edu.au/grades

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Assignments which are submitted to the School Assignment Box must have a properly completed School Assessment Coversheet, with the declaration signed and dated by hand. The Coversheet can be downloaded from https://hal.arts.unsw.edu.au/students/courses/course-outlines/. It is your responsibility to make a backup copy of the assignment prior to submission and retain it.

Assignments must be submitted before 4:00pm on the due date. Assignments received after this time will be marked as having been received late.

Late Submission of Assignments

The Arts and Social Sciences late submissions guidelines state the following:

- An assessed task is deemed late if it is submitted after the specified time and date as set out in the course Learning Management System (LMS).
- The late penalty is the loss of 3% of the total possible marks for the task for each day or part thereof the work is late.
- Work submitted 14 days after the due date will be marked and feedback provided but no mark will be recorded. If the work would have received a pass mark but for the lateness and the work is a compulsory course component, a student will be deemed to have met that requirement. This does not apply to a task that is assessed but no mark is awarded.
- Work submitted 21 days after the due date will not be accepted for marking or feedback and will receive no mark or grade. If the assessment task is a compulsory component of the course a student will automatically fail the course.

The Late Submissions Guidelines can be found in full at: https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/Protocols-Guidelines/
The penalty may not apply where students are able to provide documentary evidence of illness or serious misadventure. Time pressure resulting from undertaking assignments for other courses does not constitute an acceptable excuse for lateness.

6. Extension of Time for Submission of Assessment Tasks

The Arts and Social Sciences Extension Guidelines apply to all assessed tasks regardless of whether or not a grade is awarded, except the following:

1. any form of test/examination/assessed activity undertaken during regular class contact hours
2. any task specifically identified by the Course Authority (the academic in charge of the course) in the Course Outline or Learning Management System (LMS), for example, Moodle, as not available for extension requests.

The complete Arts and Social Sciences Extension Guidelines can be read here.

If you wish to request an extension for submission of an assessment task you need to do so via myUNSW using the Special Consideration section. You will need to submit documentary evidence in support of your request.

A student who missed an assessment activity held within class contact hours should apply for Special Consideration via myUNSW.

7. Attendance

The Arts and Social Sciences Attendance Guidelines state the following:

- A student is expected to attend all class contact hours for a face-to-face or blended course and complete all activities for a blended or fully online course.
- If a student is unable to attend all classes for a course due to timetable clashes, the student must complete the Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences Permitted Timetable Clash form (see information at Item 8 below). A student unable to attend lectures in a course conducted by the School of Education can apply for “Permission to Participate in Lectures Online”.
- Where practical, a student’s attendance will be recorded. Individual course outlines/LMS will set out the conditions under which attendance will be measured.
- A student who arrives more than 15 minutes late may be penalised for non-attendance. If such a penalty is imposed, the student must be informed verbally at the end of class and advised in writing within 24 hours.
- If a student experiences illness, misadventure or other occurrence that makes absence from a class/activity unavoidable, or expects to be absent from a forthcoming class/activity, they should seek permission from the Course Authority, and where applicable, should be accompanied by an original or certified copy of a medical certificate or other form of appropriate evidence.
- Reserve members of the Australian Defence Force who require absences of more than two weeks due to full-time service may be provided an exemption. The student may also be permitted to discontinue enrolment without academic or financial penalty.
• If a Course Authority rejects a student’s request for absence from a class or activity the student must be advised in writing of the grounds for the rejection.

• A Course Authority may excuse a student from classes or activities for up to one month. However, they may assign additional and/or alternative tasks to ensure compliance.

• A Course Authority considering the granting of absence must be satisfied a student will still be able to meet the course’s learning outcomes and/or volume of learning.

• A student seeking approval to be absent for more than one month must apply in writing to the Dean and provide all original or certified supporting documentation.

• The Dean will only grant such a request after consultation with the Course Authority to ensure that measures can be organised that will allow the student to meet the course’s learning outcomes and volume of learning.

• A student who attends less than 80% of the classes/activities and has not submitted appropriate supporting documentation to the Course Authority to explain their absence may be awarded a final grade of UF (Unsatisfactory Fail).

• A student who has submitted the appropriate documentation but attends less than 66% of the classes/activities will be asked by the Course Authority to apply to discontinue the course without failure rather than be awarded a final grade of UF. The final decision as to whether a student can be withdrawn without fail is made by Student Administration and Records.

Students who falsify their attendance or falsify attendance on behalf of another student will be dealt with under the Student Misconduct Policy.

8. Class Clash

Students who are enrolled in an Arts and Social Sciences program (single or dual) and have an unavoidable timetable clash can apply for permissible timetable clash by completing an online application form. Students must meet the rules and conditions in order to apply for permissible clash. The rules and conditions can be accessed online in full at: https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/media/FASSFile/Permissible_Clash_Rules.pdf

For students who are enrolled in a non-Arts and Social Sciences program, they must seek advice from their home faculty on permissible clash approval.

9. Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is presenting someone else’s thoughts or work as your own. It can take many forms, from not having appropriate academic referencing to deliberate cheating.

In many cases plagiarism is the result of inexperience about academic conventions. The University has resources and information to assist you to avoid plagiarism.

The Learning Centre assists students with understanding academic integrity and how to not plagiarise. Information is available on their website: https://student.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism/. They also hold workshops and can help students one-on-one.

If plagiarism is found in your work when you are in first year, your lecturer will offer you assistance to improve your academic skills. They may ask you to look at some online
resources, attend the Learning Centre, or sometimes resubmit your work with the problem fixed. However, more serious instances in first year, such as stealing another student’s work or paying someone to do your work, may be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures.

Repeated plagiarism (even in first year), plagiarism after first year, or serious instances, may also be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures. The penalties under the procedures can include a reduction in marks, failing a course or for the most serious matters (like plagiarism in an Honours thesis) or even suspension from the university. The Student Misconduct Procedures are available here: http://www.gs.unsw.edu.au/policy/documents/studentmisconductprocedures.pdf

### 10. Course Schedule

**To view course timetable, please visit:** [http://www.timetable.unsw.edu.au/](http://www.timetable.unsw.edu.au/)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week Commencing:</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Lecture Content</th>
<th>Tutorial/Lab Content</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PART I: GREEK MYTHS (Jan 04, 05, 06, 07, 11)</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Mon 04/01  
(10:00am-12:00pm; 1:00-2:00pm) | Lecture 1.  
‘What is a myth? Why Greek myth’  
Lecture 2.  
‘How do we know about Greek myths? How have they been used?’ | Introduction to the Greek myth: definition, sources and content | Orpheus story | ‘The Orpheus story’, Tutorial Reader, p.4 |
| Mon 04/01  
(2:00-3:00pm; 3:00-4:00pm) | Lecture 3.  
‘Creation myths: the “first generation” of gods’ | Myths relating the creation of the world and its first deities | Pelasgian Creation Myth: a different version of creation | ‘A Creation Story’, Tutorial Reader, pp.5-7 |
| Tue 05/01  
(10:00am-12:00pm; 1:00-2:00pm) | Lecture 4.  
‘The Olympians I- origins and functions’  
Lecture 5.  
‘The Olympians II- relations with humans’ | Introducing Olympian Gods | Olympian gods: gender differences | ‘Gender issues: differences between men and women’  
&  
‘Can you say no to Zeus?’ Tutorial Reader, pp.8-9, 10-12 |
| Wed 06/01  
(10:00pm-12:00pm; 1:00-2:00pm) | Lecture 6.  
‘The demi-gods I: Prometheus’  
Lecture 7.  
The demi-gods II: Heracles | Prometheus story  
Heracles, the hero of heroes | The creation of humans  
Plautus’ story of Amphitryon and Alcmene | ‘Who creates us?’ Tutorial Reader, pp. 13-19 |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Lectures/Topics</th>
<th>Readings/Questions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Thu 07/01  | 10:00am-12:00pm; 1:00-2:00pm | **Lecture 8.** The demi-gods III: Atreus to Agamemnon  
**Lecture 9.** ‘Helen of Troy, her husband, her lover and her fate’ | House of Atreus  
The Story of Helen of Troy  
Iphigeneia’s sacrifice in Aulis  
Helen never went to Troy? |
| Thu 07/01  | 2:00pm-3:00pm | | **IN-CLASS TEST I** |
| Mon 11/01  | 10:00pm-12:00pm; 1:00-2:00pm | **Lecture 10.** ‘Helen’s sister Clytemnestra and her children’  
**Lecture 11.** ‘Oedipus, Jocasta and their children’ | Clytemnestra and her children  
The vengeance of Orestes on Aegisthus  
Antigone’s moral dilemma |
| Mon 11/01  | 2:00-3:00pm; 3:00-4:00pm | | ‘Is vengeance justice?’  
Tutorial Reader, pp.49-50 |
| Tue 12/01  | 10:00am-12:00pm; 1:00-2:00pm | **Lecture 1 & 2.** ‘Homer and history’ | Homer: the historical context  
Odyssey characters  
‘Characters in the Odyssey’ |
| Wed 13/01  | 10:00am-12:00pm; 1:00-2:00pm | **Lecture 3.** ‘Odysseus’ world: mythical monsters and human | Odysseus’ world  
Debates triggered by Odyssey’s plot  
‘Debates’ |
2:00pm) geography
Lecture 4. ‘Ithaca and Phaeacia: dysfunctional society and mythical ideal’

Thu 14/01 (10:00am-12:00pm; 1:00-2:00pm)
Lecture 5. ‘The Odyssey as an oral poem’
Lecture 6. ‘The Odyssey and European literature’
The society as represented in the Odyssey
Odyssey’s story and structure
The legacy of the Odyssey
Odyssey’s literary legacy
‘The story and its structure’
The Odyssey’s literary legacy Tutorial Reader, p.63-68

Thu 14/01 (2:00pm-3:00pm)
IN-CLASS TEST II

11. Course Resources
Textbook Details
For PART I and II of the course: Students must download the TUTORIAL
READER ARTS2542 available in “RESOURCES” of Moodle. The material must be
read carefully before the tutorials. The Course Schedule shows which readings are
to be prepared for each tutorial. The texts are mostly excerpts from longer works,
chosen to illustrate some particular aspect. In preparation for tutorials, you should try to
answer the questions posed. These will form the basis of tutorial discussions and are
designed to help you understand the texts. Some “texts” are pictures, and you should
look at them in detail. Some texts are longer and you must allow time to read them.

Also for PART II of the course it is imperative that you will have read prior to the
start of the classes Homer’s Odyssey, translated by Robert Fagles, introduction
and notes by Bernard Knox (Penguin), 1997. This book can be purchased from the
UNSW Co-op Bookshop.

Clark, M., Exploring Greek Myth, Wiley-Blackwell, 2012 is highly recommended
reading. This book can also be purchased from the UNSW Co-op Bookshop. There are
also three copies available in the library (292.13.35 A B).

Below are some suggested Reference works, all available at UNSW Library:
Additional Readings

Should you wish to refer to other books, you may find the following useful. All are available at the UNSW Main library. (Note also that the library has numerous other resources on Greek mythology including electronic books and journals)


Graves, R., The Greek Myths, Penguin, Harmondsworth, 1955 (with subsequent reprints). (S292/4 J/2 & CFA 292.08/1)


Howatson, M. C., (ed.) The Oxford Companion to Classical Literature, Oxford University Press, 1989. (S880.3/2 H) (The concise version is also available electronically)


Please note that any additional recommended readings will be available online via Moodle.

Websites

The following link contains a wide range of databases relating to Greek mythology some of which are very good:

Speak with your tutor if unsure whether a particular database can be used for researching your assignment.

The three most recommended web links, ranked in terms of importance, immediately follow (all three are included in the website cited above):

**PERSEUS Project** (Tufts University). The most extensive collection of primary source materials online. Features: hypertext-annotated and searchable text both in the original and in English translation, Greek-English dictionaries, encyclopedias and other reference material. Of particular note is an excellent overview of Greek history from the Bronze Age to the Hellenistic era.

**Greek Mythology Link** (Carlos Parada): a full encyclopedia of Greek myth. Features: geographical reference guide, a dictionary, a search engine, index and bibliography

**Theoi Project**: an online reference tool. Features: a searchable Greek Gods family tree, a bestiary, links to other related websites.

### 12. Course Evaluation and Development

Courses are periodically reviewed and students’ feedback is used to improve them. Feedback is gathered using various means including UNSW’s Course and Teaching Evaluation and Improvement (CATEI) process.

### 13. Student Support

The Learning Centre is available for individual consultation and workshops on academic skills. Find out more by visiting the Centre’s website at:

[http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au](http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au)

### 14. Grievances

All students should be treated fairly in the course of their studies at UNSW. Students who feel they have not been dealt with fairly should, in the first instance, attempt to resolve any issues with their tutor or the course convenors.

If such an approach fails to resolve the matter, the School of Humanities and Languages has an academic member of staff who acts as a Grievance Officer for the School. This staff member is identified on the notice board in the School of Humanities and Languages. Further information about UNSW grievance procedures is available at:

[https://student.unsw.edu.au/complaints](https://student.unsw.edu.au/complaints)

### 15. Other Information

**myUNSW**

myUNSW is the online access point for UNSW services and information, integrating online services for applicants, commencing and current students and UNSW staff. To visit myUNSW please visit either of the below links:

[https://my.unsw.edu.au](https://my.unsw.edu.au)

OHS

UNSW's Occupational Health and Safety Policy requires each person to work safely and responsibly, in order to avoid personal injury and to protect the safety of others. For all matters relating to Occupational Health, Safety and environment, see https://www.ohs.unsw.edu.au/

Special Consideration

In cases where illness or other circumstances produce repeated or sustained absence, students should apply for Special Consideration as soon as possible.

The application must be made via Online Services in myUNSW. Log into myUNSW and go to My Student Profile tab > My Student Services channel > Online Services > Special Consideration.

Applications on the grounds of illness must be filled in by a medical practitioner. Further information is available at: https://student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration

Student Equity and Disabilities Unit

Students who have a disability that requires some adjustment in their learning and teaching environment are encouraged to discuss their study needs with the course convener prior to or at the commencement of the course, or with the Student Equity Officers (Disability) in the Student Equity and Disabilities Unit (9385 4734). Information for students with disabilities is available at: http://www.studentequity.unsw.edu.au/

Issues that can be discussed may include access to materials, signers or note-takers, the provision of services and additional examination and assessment arrangements. Early notification is essential to enable any necessary adjustments to be made.