

Mythology and Religion

Code: 104214
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2503702 Ancient Studies	OT	4	1

The proposed teaching and assessment methodology that appear in the guide may be subject to changes as a result of the restrictions to face-to-face class attendance imposed by the health authorities.

Contact

Name: Joan Pagés Cebrián
Email: Joan.Pages.Cebrian@uab.cat

Use of Languages

Principal working language: catalan (cat)
Some groups entirely in English: No
Some groups entirely in Catalan: Yes
Some groups entirely in Spanish: No

Prerequisites

PREVIOUS: In this teaching guide the grammatical gender is used without any relation to the distinction of sexes
The subject does not presuppose prior knowledge on the part of the student

Objectives and Contextualisation

Mythology and religion are so closely linked in ancient societies that it is often difficult to distinguish the "religious". In Greek (and Latin) literary texts, then, myth, worship, and rites are ubiquitous. We propose two general objectives:

1. Reflect on the myth and its relation to ritual from different perspectives
2. Carry out a critical analysis of textual and iconographic documents.

Competences

- Be able to express oneself orally and in writing in the specific language of history, archaeology and philology, both in one's own languages and a third language.
- Students must be capable of communicating information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialised and non-specialised audiences.
- Students must develop the necessary learning skills to undertake further training with a high degree of autonomy.
- Understand and interpret the evolution of ancient societies in the Mediterranean from Egyptian civilisation to the disbanding of Western imperial Rome through analysis of the political, historical, social, economic and linguistic factors.

Learning Outcomes

1. Apply the principles of ancient rhetoric to oral and written discourse in the mother tongue.

2. Autonomously searching, selecting and processing information both from structured sources (databases, bibliographies, specialized magazines) and from across the network.
3. Critically analyse ancient sources.
4. Establishing relationships between science, philosophy, art, religion, politics, etc.
5. Explain the main characteristics of Greek idiosyncrasy.
6. Preparing an oral and written discourse in the corresponding language in a proper and organized way.

Content

BLOCK I: GENERALITIES

1. Introduction to Greek myth and religion
2. The myths
3. Worship practices. The rituals. Ritual typology
4. Sacred spaces: shrines.

BLOCK II: THE OLYMPIC RELIGION

5. Introduction to the Olympic religion: gods, heroes and other deities
6. Zeus, Hera and related heroes
7. Poseidon, Athena and related heroes
8. Apollo, Artemis and related heroes
9. Aphrodite, Hermes and other related deities and heroes.
10. Dionysus and Dionysism.

Methodology

The teaching methodology of this subject will consist of combining the theoretical explanations of each of the topics.

Throughout the course a selection of texts will be provided to work on in class. Students, in groups, will choose a topic from those that will be proposed. Suggested topics for the works (students will have to choose one, or propose their own):

1. The myth of Orpheus and Orphism
2. Orphic conceptions: the immortality and transmigration of the soul
3. Orphic cosmogonies and their relation to Hesiod's Theogony
4. Cults and mysterious initiations: Eleusis, Cybele, the Cabirs, etc.
5. Agrarian rites and urban Dionysia
8. Orphic Dionysus

Myths and cults of heroes

7. The cult of heroes: problematic
8. Heroic myths and worship
9. Pelops, Hippolytus, Hyacinth, Heracles, Achilles and Iphigenia

Transition rites

10. Life cycle rites
11. Initiations and rites of passage: Brauron and the arkteia
12. River cults, transvestism, ecdysia
13. Achilles in Scythia
14. The Spartan and Cretan agate
15. Homoerotic initiation: the myths of Ganymede and Pelops

Myths and rites of purification

16. Conceptions of impurity and purification. Rites of purification
17. The cases of Odysseus and Orestes
18. Myths of human sacrifice: Iphigenia
19. The scapegoat (farmakós)
20. Catapontism: Phaeton, Hippolytus, Blueberry and Ino-Leukotea, etc.
21. The foundation of colonies as rites of purification.

Annotation: Within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Exposició de temes d'acord amb la programació de l'assignatura	32	1.28	3, 2, 6, 4, 5
Participació en discussions	15	0.6	1
Type: Supervised			
Exposició oral	14.5	0.58	3, 1, 4
Treball cooperatiu	15	0.6	3, 2
Type: Autonomous			
Lectura de bibliografia	25	1	2
Recerca de material	20	0.8	2

Assessment

The final grade of the course will be the average between:

- Oral presentation of a topic (30%)
- 1st partial exam (35%)
- 2nd partial exam (35%)

It is important for the student to keep in mind that the assessment includes a written test. A student who has not taken any of the written tests will be considered "failing". In the re-assessment, the student will be able to recover the mark corresponding to the test. If the mark of any of the revaluable parts is less than 3, it will be necessary to re-evaluate. The revaluation will only be able to do in case that the partial examination is not passed. A date for an evaluation activity can only be changed if the absence or non-attendance is justified. If the tests cannot be done in person, their format will be adapted (maintaining the same content). In the event that the student commits any irregularity that may lead to a suspension, the student will be considered "failing".

Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Exposició oral	30	25.5	1.02	3, 1, 2, 6, 4, 5
primer examen parcial	35	1.5	0.06	3, 6, 5
segon examen parcial	35	1.5	0.06	3, 6, 5

Bibliography

[En negreta els manuals i obres de consulta especialment recomanats]

Diccionaris i obres de consulta

- Aghion, I. et alii. 1997. Guía iconográfica de los héroes y dioses de la antigüedad. Madrid.
- Bonnefoy, I. (ed.) 1981. Dictionnaire des mythologies et des religions des sociétés traditionnelles et du monde antique. Paris.
- Grimal, P. 2008. Diccionari de mitologia grega i romana. Barcelona
- Harrauer, C., Hunger H. 2008. Diccionario de mitología griega y romana con referencia sobre la influencia de los temas y motivos antiguos en las artes plásticas, la literatura y la música de Occidente hasta la actualidad. Barcelona
- LIMC = DD.AA. 1981- .Lexicon iconographicum mythologiae classicae. Zürich.
- Ogden (ed.) 2007. A Companion to Greek religion. Malden.
- Olalla, P. 2001. Atlas mitológico de Grecia. Atenes.
- Price S. (ed.), 2004. The Oxford dictionary of classical myth and religion. Oxford.
- Roscher, W. (ed.) 1884-1937. Ausführlichen Lexicon des Griechischen und Römischen Mythologie. Leipzig.
- ThesCRA = Thesaurus cultus et rituum antiquorum Los Angeles-Basel 2004.
- Woodward (ed.) The Cambridge companion to greek mythology. Cambridge.
- Bibliografia general**
- Bernabé Pajares, A. 2008. Dioses, héroes y orígenes del mundo: lecturas de mitología. Madrid.
- Bremmer, J. 1994. Greek religion. Oxford.
- Burkert, W. 1985. Greek religion archaic and classical. Oxford. (També en versió en castellà: Religión griega arcaica y clásica)
- Buxton, R. 2004. Todos los dioses de Grecia. Madrid.
- Buxton, R. 2000. El Imaginario griego. Los contextos de la mitología. Madrid.
- Chirassi Colombo, I. 2005. La religión griega: dioses, héroes, ritos y misterios. Madrid.
- Delattre, C. 2005. Manuel de mythologie grecque. Bréal.
- Díez de Velasco Abellán, Francisco P. 1998. Lenguajes de la religión: mitos, símbolos e imágenes de la Grecia. Madrid.
- Ekroth, G. 2002: The Sacrificial Rituals of Greek Hero Cults in the Archaic to the Early Hellenistic Periods, Kernos, supl. 2, Lieja.
- Gantz, T. 1993. Early Greek myth : a guide to literary and artistic sources. Baltimore.
- García Gual, C. 2007. Introducción a la mitología griega. Madrid.
- Gómez i Cardó, P. 1997. La Religió i els déus dels grecs. Barcelona.
- Graf, F. 1993. Greek mythology: an introduction. Baltimore.
- Kirk, G. S. 1971. Myth : its meaning and functions in ancient and other cultures. Cambridge.
- Larson, J. 2007. Ancient Greek cults : a guide. New York.
- Nilsson, M. 1980. A History of Greek religion. Westport.
- Parker, R. 1996. Athenian religion : a history. Oxford.
- Redondo, J. 2006. Introducció a la religió i la mitologia gregues. València.
- Rice, D. G. 1979. Sources for the study of Greek religion Missoula.
- Vernant, J. P. Vidal-Naquet, P. 2002. Mito y tragedia en la Grecia antigua. Barcelona.
- Vernant, J. P. 1990. Mythe et religion en Grèce ancienne. Paris.
- Vernant, J. P. 2000. L'Univers, els déus, els homes. Barcelona.

Software

No programari