

Mythology and Literature

Code: 100422
 ECTS Credits: 6

2025/2026

Degree	Type	Year
Humanities	OT	3
Humanities	OT	4
English and Classics Studies	OT	3
English and Classics Studies	OT	4

Contact

Name: Jordi Pamias Massana
 Email: jordi.pamias@uab.cat

Teaching groups languages

You can view this information at the [end](#) of this document.

Prerequisites

NOTICE: This guide has been translated into English by means of an automatic translator and may contain translation mistakes. If in doubt, the original Catalan version prevails.

Given the introductory nature of this subject, no knowledge of Greco-Roman mythology, art or literature is presupposed and, therefore, the student must have a good disposition to approach these aspects from his more basic contents. Only interest in classical antiquity and its survival, universal literature, art, and other cultural manifestations is demanded.

Language

Students must be willing to follow classes taught in Catalan and use written material in that language (without excluding others), but they can use in their work or their participation Spanish (or another nearby language).

Objectives and Contextualisation

This subject aims to be an introduction to Greco-Roman mythology and its survival to the present day. We will approach the definition of the concepts of myth, mythology, and mythography; to the analysis of iconography for the identification of mythical referents; to the gods and some of the major mythical cycles; in the literary sources of Greek and Roman mythology; to the literary, religious, and everyday contexts in which myths circulated in antiquity; in transmission mythology from antiquity to the present world; to the various interpretations that have been proposed of the mythical fact and the mythical tales.

These contents will be completed with the confrontation with a selection of literary and iconographic sources that allow us to know the classical mythology and exemplify its survival. At the end of the course, the student will have approached different theories, ancient and modern, about the myth and its interpretation. He will have assimilated the gods and some of the main mythical cycles of the Greco-Latin tradition and will have become familiar with the use of the main tools, literary and iconographic, for the identification and study of ancient myths, their Greek and Latin sources, as well as its reception in the Western tradition.

Competences

Humanities

- Developing critical thinking and reasoning and communicating them effectively both in your own and other languages.
- Identifying the historical processes of contemporary culture.

English and Classics Studies

- Interpret written texts in Latin and Greek to learn about classical history and civilizations.
- Interrelate linguistic and historical knowledge of the ancient world with knowledge of other fields of the humanities, mainly literature and archaeology.
- Make changes to methods and processes in the area of knowledge in order to provide innovative responses to society's needs and demands.
- Recognize the most significant periods, traditions, trends, authors and works of Greek, Latin and English literatures in their historical and social context.

Learning Outcomes

1. Analysing the recycling of classical motifs in new contexts.
2. Applying the historical, institutional, cultural and literary knowledge to the commentary of texts.
3. Assessing the reception in the West of the thought and history of the classical world.
4. Be aware of and give value to the reception of the thought and history of the classical world in the West.
5. Criticising the film adaptations of the classical mythological legends.
6. Enumerating concepts of classic culture that have survived to the present society.
7. Identifying the Greco-Roman sources that have inspired artists and literary people through history.
8. Identifying the results of the projection of the classical world to the Western culture on various levels and in several eras and territories.
9. Interpreting the material and cultural context of transmission of ancient texts.
10. Relate contemporary myths to classical antiquity.
11. Relating the contemporary myths with the classical antiquity.

Content

Contents

Presentation: Greco-Latin mythology in our environment

What is a myth? Definition essay.

Sources for the study of mythology: literature and art.

The myth in Greece. Myths and logos.

Interpretations of mythology.

Cosmogonic and theogonic myths.

The Olympic gods.

Myths of Crete.

The house of Thebes.

The Trojan War.

Activities and Methodology

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
-------	-------	------	-------------------

Type: Directed

Classes	42	1.68	1, 2, 6, 8, 7, 9, 11, 3
Exam	3	0.12	1, 2, 8, 7
Type: Supervised			
Essay	50	2	1, 2, 5, 8, 7, 11, 3
Type: Autonomous			
Activities online	30	1.2	1, 2, 8
Personal study	25	1	1, 6, 8, 7, 9, 3

Class attendance will serve the student to acquire tools for the analysis and study of Greco-Roman myths from their sources to their survival over the centuries, especially in literature and the visual arts. The learning activities, consisting of the analysis and commentary of literary texts and / or other cultural manifestations, in synthesis works, in an exam and in a final work, will allow to deepen and consolidate the acquired knowledge and competences.

The student will find the materials in the virtual campus (Moodle) of the subject: activities, text dossiers, presentations, links, audiovisual materials, current news...

The exam will consist of the analysis of literary texts and artistic images of antiquity and classical tradition that deal with myths or theoretical passages on mythology.

The final work will consist of one of these two options:

Study of a myth or mythical character, which must include three basic aspects:

Literary sources,

Ancient iconography,

Literary and artistic tradition.

In-depth study of a work of art or literature based on a myth to analyze its treatment and sources.

In the event that for justified reasons (conferences, student assemblies, congresses, etc.) some classes are missed, they may be recovered by extending the class period or proposing substitute activities.

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.

Assessment

Continuous Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Essay	20	0	0	1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 7, 9, 11, 4, 3
Exam	30	0	0	1, 8, 7, 11
Examen parcial 2	30	0	0	1, 8, 7, 11, 10

Participation in class and other teaching activities	20	0	0	1, 2, 6, 8, 7, 9
--	----	---	---	------------------

1. Condicions per a la qualificació 'No available'.

Students will obtain a Not assessed/Not submitted course grade unless they have submitted more than 30% of the assessment items.

2. Procediment de recuperació

Per participar a la recuperació l'alumnat ha d'haver estat prèviament avaluat en un conjunt d'activitats el pes de les quals equivalgui a un mínim de 2/3 parts de la qualificació total (AVALUACIÓ CONTINUADA) o bé lliurar totes les proves previstes (AVALUACIÓ ÚNICA).

Evaluation criteria:

Failure to present the work will prevent passing the subject.

Recovery will consist of a written examination and, where appropriate, reworking of the work.

To participate in the recovery, students must have previously been assessed in a set of activities whose weight is equivalent to a minimum of 2/3 of the total grade.

With the recovery it will only be possible to recover the note of the examination and, in his case, of the work, if they have suspended or if they have not been able to realize by a justified cause with an official document. Recovering another activity not performed at the time will only be possible for a reason that can be justified with an official document.

If it is detected that the student has copied the exam or the work, he will be able to suspend the subject without option to re-evaluation.

A date for an assessment activity can only be changed if the student's absence or non-delivery of the activity can be justified with an official document.

The review of exams and other activities will take place in the teacher's office on the date and time determined by the teacher and communicated to all students.

In the event that tests or exams cannot be taken onsite, they will be adapted to an online format made available through the UAB's virtual tools (original weighting will be maintained). Homework, activities and 4 class participation will be carried out through forums, wikis and/or discussion on Teams, etc. Lecturers will ensure that students are able to access these virtual tools, or will offer them feasible alternatives

Calendar:

School period: from February 10 to June 5.

Exam: first week of June.

Deadline for submission of the work script (mandatory in an arranged tutorial): Thursday 2 April.

Delivery of work: until Wednesday 10 June.

The other activities must be presented throughout the course.

Notice: Dates on this calendar are subject to change for justified reasons.

Unique assessment

-Theoretical exam of the second part of the syllabus

-Submission of a project that will consist of one of these two options:

-Study of a myth or mythical character, which must include three basic aspects: Literary sources, Ancient iconography, Literary and artistic tradition.

Bibliography

Bibliography

- Irène Aghion - François Lissarrague - Claire Barbillon, *Guía iconográfica de los héroes y dioses de la antigüedad*, Madrid, Alianza editorial, 1997.
- Yves Bonnefoy (ed.), *Diccionario de las mitologías y de las religiones de las sociedades tradicionales y del mundo antiguo*, 6 vols., Barcelona 1996 i segs. (orig. Paris 1981).
- Walter Burkert, *Religión griega. Arcaica y Clásica*, Madrid, Abada editores, 2007 (orig. Stuttgart 1977).
- Richard Buxton, *El imaginario griego: los contextos de la mitología*, Madrid, Cambridge University Press, 2000 (orig. Cambridge 1994).
- Thomas H. Carpenter, *Art and Myth in Ancient Greece. A Handbook*, Londres 1991 (orig. Repr. 1998).
- Marcel Detienne, *La invención de la mitología*, Madrid 1985 (orig. París 1981).
- Miguel Ángel Elvira, *Arte y mito. Manual de iconografía clásica*, Madrid, Sílex, 2008.
- Anthony Grafton, Glenn W. Most, Salvatore Settis, *The Classical Tradition*, Cambridge (Mass.) - Londres, Belknap, 2010.
- Gilbert Highet, *La tradición clásica. Influencias griegas y romanas en la literatura occidental*, Mèxic, Fondo de Cultura Económica, 1978 (orig. 1948).
- Timothy Gantz, *Early Greek Myth. A Guide to Literary and Artistic Sources*, Baltimore, Johns Hopkins University Press, 1993.
- Carlos García Gual, *Introducción a la mitología griega*, Madrid, Alianza Editorial, 2007 (orig. 1992).
- Fritz Graf, *Greek Mythology. An Introduction*, Baltimore-Londres, Johns Hopkins University Press, 1993.
- Pierre Grimal, *Diccionari de mitologia grega i romana*, Barcelona, Edicions de 1984, 2008 (versió castellana: Paidós, 2007) (ed. orig. París 1951).
- Robin Hard, *El gran libro de la mitología griega*, Madrid, La Esfera de los Libros, 2008.
- Christine Harrauer - Herbert Hunger, *Diccionario de mitología griega y romana*, Barcelona, Herder, 2008.
- Geoffrey Stephen Kirk, *El mito. Su significado y funciones en la antigüedad y otras culturas*, Barcelona 1985 (orig. 1970).
- Antonio López Eire - María del Henar Velasco López, *La mitología griega: lenguaje de dioses y hombres*, Madrid, Arco, 2012.
- Lucia Impelluso, *Héroes y dioses de la antigüedad*, Barcelona, Electa, 2002
- *Lexicon Iconographicum Mythologiae Classicae*, Zuric-Munic, Artemis, 1981.
- René Martin (dir.), *Diccionario de la mitología clásica*, Madrid, Espasa Calpe, 1998 (orig. *Dictionnaire culturel de la mythologie gréco-romaine*, París, Nathan, 1992).
- Mark Morford - Robert J. Lenardon - Michael Sham, *Classical Mythology, International tenth edition*, Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2015.
- Jane D. Reid, *The Oxford Guide to Classical Mythology in the Arts, 1300-1990s*, Oxford, Oxford University Press, 1993.
- Antonio Ruiz de Elvira, *Mitología clásica*, Madrid, Gredos, 1975.
- Joan Sariol - Santiago Cucurella - Carmen Moncau, *La mitología clàssica. Literatura, art, música*, Barcelona, Barcanova, 1994.
- Jean Seznec, *Los dioses de la antigüedad en la Edad Media y el Renacimiento*, Madrid, Taurus, 1987 (orig. Londres 1940).
- Jean-Pierre Vernant, *Mito y sociedad en la Grecia antigua*, Madrid, Siglo XXI, 1982 (orig. 1974).
- Roger D. Woodard (ed.), *The Cambridge companion to Greek mythology*, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2007 ([Versió electrònica](#), 2008, des de la UAB).

Webs

- Assela Alamillo - Emma Rodríguez, *Mitología y arte* < <http://ntic.educacion.es/w3/eos/MaterialesEducativos/mem2000/mitologia/Mitologia> >.
- Aaron J. Atsma, *Theoi Project* < <http://www.theoi.com> >.
- Laurel Bowman i Karen Friesen, *Classical Myth: The Ancient Sources* < http://web.uvic.ca/grs/department_files/classical_myth >.

- *Diccionari Etimològic de la Mitologia Grega* (DEMGOL), Gruppo di Ricerca sul Mito e la Mitografia dell'Università di Trieste (GRIMM) <<http://demgol.units.it>>.
- Sebastià Giralt, *El laberint dels mites* <<http://www.xtec.cat/~sgiralt/labyrinthus/index1.htm>>.
- *Lexicon Iconographicum Mythologiae Classicae* (LIMC) <<http://weblimc.org/>>.
- Carlos Parada, *Greek mythology link* <<http://www.maicar.com/GML>>.
- *Perseus Digital Library* (Tufts University): *Greek and Roman Materials* <<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/collection?collection=Perseus:collection:Greco-Roman>>.

Software

Caldrà tenir el programa Teams instal.lat a l'ordinador.

Groups and Languages

Please note that this information is provisional until 30 November 2025. You can check it through this [link](#). To consult the language you will need to enter the CODE of the subject.

Name	Group	Language	Semester	Turn
(PAUL) Classroom practices	1	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed
(TE) Theory	1	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed