CUL8 Greek Mythology (7 ECTS)

COURSE OUTLINE

1. GENERAL

SCHOOL	CLASSICS AND HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT	GREEK PHILOLOGY
LEVEL OF STUDIES	UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES PROGRAMME - BA IN HELLENIC STUDIES

COURSE CODE	CUL8	SEMESTER	8th

COURSE TITLE	GREEK MYTHOLOGY

TEACHING ACTIVITIES *If the ECTS Credits are distributed in distinct parts of the course e.g. lectures, labs etc. If the ECTS Credits are awarded to the whole course, then please indicate the teaching hours per week and the corresponding ECTS Credits.*	**TEACHING HOURS PER WEEK**	**ECTS CREDITS**
	3	7
Please, add lines if necessary. Teaching methods and organization of the course are described in section 4.		

COURSE TYPE *Background, General Knowledge, Scientific Area, Skill Development*	SCIENTIFIC AREA
PREREQUISITES:	NONE
TEACHING & EXAMINATION LANGUAGE:	ENGLISH
COURSE OFFERED TO ERASMUS STUDENTS:	No
COURSE URL:	…

2. LEARNING OUTCOMES

Learning Outcomes
Please describe the learning outcomes of the course: Knowledge, skills and abilities acquired after the successful completion of the course.

The aim of the course is to offer an introduction to Greek (and Roman) mythology in its literary, artistic and social context. Students will become familiar with basic concepts, patterns, figures and ideas of classical myth through the study of a diverse collection of literary and artistic evidence ranging from Archaic Greece to Imperial Rome (and beyond). At the same time, they will come to reflect on the nature of myth as a multifaceted product of ancient mentality (both Greek and Roman) and evaluate the impact of Classical mythology on the construction of modern identities and ideologies. A selection of case-study narratives will be used to examine the varied meanings and social functions of myth in general. Literary evidence will be complemented by iconography (sculpture, vase painting etc.) and physical remains, such as temples and monuments. Special emphasis will also be paid to gender as an interpretative tool in the investigation of the socio-cultural importance of Classical myth in ancient (and modern) times.

Upon successful completion of the course students should be able to:
- Be familiar with basic themes, motifs and figures of Greek myth through the study of literary and visual material (*critical literacy*).
- Develop their critical thinking through the study of Greek mythology and enhance their intellectual skills through logical and coherent argumentation (*critical functional literacy*).
- Critically evaluate modern interpretations of Classical myth.
- Describe the artistic, cultural, and social power of myth and analyze the way this power can be exploited for political and ideological purposes.

- Develop the skill of accessing and consolidating Greek myth and art through audio, visual or multimodal media (*audiovisual literacy*).
- Cultivate digital skills through the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) relevant to classical antiquity (*digital literacy*).
- Discuss the interrelationship of image and narrative and discuss the way in which different media permit a variety of means of expression (*visual and critical literacy*).
- Cultivate the ability to process the ideas and values of the Classical world and compare them with modern values (*cultural literacy*).
- Reflect and understand the relationship between mythical and political discourse.
- Understand the critical role of mythical thought in the construction of gender identities.
- Have the ability to learn and update their knowledge.
- Re-evaluate the cultural legacy of Greek mythology in contemporary Europe.
- Argue in favour of the added intellectual value of Classical antiquity.

General Skills

Name the desirable general skills upon successful completion of the module

Search, analysis and synthesis of data and information, ICT Use	*Project design and management*
	Equity and Inclusion
Adaptation to new situations	*Respect for the natural environment*
Decision making	*Sustainability*
Autonomous work	*Demonstration of social, professional and moral*
Teamwork	*responsibility and sensitivity to gender issues*
Working in an international environment	*Critical thinking*
Working in an interdisciplinary environment	*Promoting free, creative and inductive reasoning*
Production of new research ideas	

  Search, analysis and synthesis of data and information, ICT Use
  Decision making
  Autonomous work
  Teamwork
  Working in an interdisciplinary environment
  Project design and management
  Equity and Inclusion
  Demonstration of social, professional and moral responsibility and sensitivity to gender issues
  Critical thinking
  Promoting free, creative and inductive reasoning
  Respect of diversity and multiculturalism

3. COURSE CONTENT

1. What is *Myth*? Introduction, Interpretations, Cultural Background, Literary and Visual Sources
2. Myths of Creation: from Hesiod to *The Book of Genesis*
3. The Greek Gods: Zeus, Apollo, Hermes, Dionysus
4. The Greek Goddesses: Athena, Aphrodite, Demeter, Artemis
5. The Trojan Circle and Odysseus' homecoming
6. Aeneas' journey from Troy to Italy: The Myth(s) of Rome
7. Monsters and Heroes I: Herakles
8. Monsters and Heroes II: Theseus (also Ariadne and Phaedra) – *Midterm exam*
9. Film screening: *Phaedra* (1962, dir. Jules Dassin)
10. Oedipus' legacy: From Sophocles to Freud
11. Jason and the Argonauts (Medea)
12. The Underworld: Orpheus, Herakles, Odysseus, Aeneas
13. Essays presentation and students' feedback on the course

4. LEARNING & TEACHING METHODS - EVALUATION

TEACHING METHOD *Face to face, Distance learning, etc.*	Face to face (including lectures, in-class debates, film screening, teamwork, in-class project presentation)
USE OF INFORMATION & COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (ICT)	Teaching with ppt Use of www Film screening

Use of ICT in Teaching, in Laboratory Education, in Communication with students	Use of e-class (learning material, announcements, communication) Use of e-mail	
TEACHING ORGANIZATION *The ways and methods of teaching are described in detail.* *Lectures, Seminars, Laboratory Exercise, Field Exercise, Bibliographic research & analysis, Tutoring, Internship (Placement), Clinical Exercise, Art Workshop, Interactive learning, Study visits, Study / creation, project, creation, project. Etc.* *The supervised and unsupervised workload per activity is indicated here, so that total workload per semester complies to ECTS standards.*	*Activity*	*Workload/semester*
	Lectures	27
	Film screening and study	3
	Private study of bibliography and preparation for exams (midterm & final)	70
	Private study for project	70
	Mid-term assessment	1
	Essay Presentation	3
	Final assessment	2
	TOTAL	**175**

STUDENT EVALUATION *Description of the evaluation process* *Assessment Language, Assessment Methods, Formative or Concluding, Multiple Choice Test, Short Answer Questions, Essay Development Questions, Problem Solving, Written Assignment, Essay / Report, Oral Exam, Presentation in audience, Laboratory Report, Clinical examination of a patient, Artistic interpretation, Other/Others* *Please indicate all relevant information about the course assessment and how students are informed*	Formative • Participation in classes (15%) • Mid-term written assessment (Week 8) (20%) • Individual or group project (submission in Week 11; oral presentation in Week 13) (20%) • Final written assessment (45%)

5. SUGGESTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Bremmer, J., ed. 1998, *Interpretations of Greek Mythology*. London: Routledge.
- Burkert, W. 1979, *Structure and History in Greek Mythology and Ritual*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
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- Eisner, R. 1987, *The Road to Daulis: Psychoanalysis, Psychology, and Classical Mythology*. New York: Syracuse University Press.
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- Felton, D. 1999, *Haunted Greece and Rome: Ghost Stories from Classical Antiquity*. Austin:

    University of Texas Press.
- Lefkowitz, M. 2005, *Greek Gods, Human Lives: What We Can Learn from Myths*. New Haven: Yale
    University Press.
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    Redfield*. New York: Doubleday.
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    Oxford; New York: Oxford University Press.
- Veyne, P. 1988, *Did the Greeks Believe in their Myths?: An Essay on the Constitutive Imagination*.
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- Woodard, R.D. ed. 2007, *The Cambridge Companion to Greek Mythology*. New York: Cambridge
    University Press.
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    University Press.