

Course: LLT 121
Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisite: None

Course Title: Classical Mythology
Department: World Languages & Cultures

General Education Area:
HUMAN CULTURES - Humanities (*GEC 111*)

Information submitted by a department representative on 5/17/2021 12:50:44 PM – Compiled by Darren Wienberg, Academic Advising & Transfer Center

Typically Offered During:

Fall Full Semester:	YES	Fall 1 st Block:	NO	Fall 2 nd Block:	NO
Spring Full Semester:	YES	Spring 1 st Block:	NO	Spring 2 nd Block:	NO
Summer:	YES				

Typical Instructional Modality:

Traditional (seated):	YES	Blended:	NO	Internet:	YES
Online Video:	YES	Web Conference:	NO		

May Also Count Toward Department Offering:

Major:	NO	Minor:	YES	Certificate:	YES
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Please see online published semester class schedule and undergraduate catalog for detailed course offering information.

How do you describe the course to students when they ask “What is this class about?” (Without using the catalog description)?

We delve into the stories of the Olympian gods (Zeus, Aphrodite, etc.) and heroes (Hercules, Achilles, etc.), many of whom students have seen in the Percy Jackson series, musicals, movies, and in high school/middle school courses. We discuss how the myths influenced the culture of the ancient Greeks and Romans & how they are pertinent to our modern world (modern advertising loves to use Classical Myth). We might touch on some other mythologies as well, and read the originals in translation. We have a lot of fun exploring the retellings of the stories, too (Disney's Hercules, Troy, etc.) and learning about the impact of storytelling in many cultures, governments, societies, both past and present.

Beyond meeting a General Education requirement, what benefits can students realize from choosing this course?

Modern Advertising works heavily off Classical Mythology so business and psychology majors often enjoy this course (Freud used a lot of myth, too). Students learn to recognize patterns in myth and the use of it through art history & appreciation. This means that students go to museums and places around the world and know the stories depicted in famous works they might not have otherwise! Students working towards English, Creative Writing & Art degrees find it useful in understanding the references in other art, theater, and literature. We also discuss the Etymologies of many modern phrases and terms in English which come from myth, expanding student vocabulary for GREs and LSAT. Of course, with the Gen Ed course goal being Cultural Competence, students often find themselves developing Cultural Humility and empathy for learning about other cultures, languages, and religions. Students learn how to embrace other cultures in a "safe" environment, in that the peoples we discuss are dead, and they often feel more comfortable voicing their opinions and thoughts of analysis openly with their peers.

Other than your major/minor/certificate students, what groups of students could find this course relevant to their degree program or career path?

Besides being just plain FUN, this course aids in helping students develop the "soft-skills" jobs are looking for! Not only do students digest information, but they apply what they've learned in creative pathways and present their findings & opinions to others in succinct and inclusive terms. They develop skills of cultural humility, an essential practice in working in Diversity and Inclusion and in furthering their development as Global Citizens. Students looking to pursue graduate degrees often find this (along with Latin/Greek courses and our Medical Terminology Class) useful for pre-law, graduate school, and pre-med, as well as other health degrees. Some of our modern medical terms come from Classical Mythology! Students explore the methods by which stories, public agendas, and other social constructions pass through communities by way of mythology, literature, and retellings of stories. This helps them if they are going into Public Affairs, Psychology, Marketing & Advertising, among others.

Catalog Description (Fall 2022 Undergraduate Catalog)

A study of Greek and Roman myths and legends as they appear in art, music and literature, especially epic and tragedy.