

ANT2800 Classical Mythology (Spring 2021): Course Info and Teaching Schedule

Course description: see <https://www.uio.no/studier/emner/hf/ifikk/ANT2800/index-eng.html>

Information on the instructor

- Silvio Bär, Professor of Classics.
- Tel.: 22855338 · email: silvio.baer@ifikk.uio.no · office: GM 545.
- I work at home for the time being, but I can be reached via email at any time.

General course information

- In accordance with UiO's infection prevention measures, there are no physical/synchronous lectures in this course in Spring 2021. Instead, lectures are podcasted and uploaded on Canvas on a weekly basis.
- The teaching language is English. However, the exam can be written in English or in Norwegian. (Furthermore, I appreciate if Norwegian students use Norwegian in private communication with me.)
- During the ordinary lecture time (Friday, 10:15–12:00h), I offer digital meetings (office hours / mini-seminars) on Zoom.
 - These meetings are optional, but highly recommended.
 - The log-in details are published every Thursday evening on Canvas in "Emneoversikt". In order to avoid Zoom-bombing, new log-in details are provided each week.
 - Please note that these meetings are not public, but only for those who are registered as students in ANT2800. You are not allowed to share the log-in details.

Syllabus, compulsory (please turn over for the detailed teaching schedule)

- The following books must be bought and read from beginning to end (they can be purchased at the Akademika bookshop on Blindern Campus):
 - Graf, Fritz. 1996. *Greek Mythology: An Introduction*. Baltimore (pb., ISBN 9780801853951).
 - March, Jenny. 2009. *The Penguin Book of Classical Myths*. London (pb., ISBN 978-0141020778).
- The following articles are available through Leganto:
 - Allen, Nicholas J. 2011. "The Indo-European Background to Greek Mythology." In: Ken Dowden and Niall Livingstone (eds.), *A Companion to Greek Mythology*. Malden, Oxford and Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell, 341–356.
 - Bär, Silvio. 2020. "The Nature and Characteristics of the Gods in Classical Mythology." *Symbolae Philologorum Posnaniensium* 30, 7–46.
 - Fox, Matthew. 2011. "The Myth of Rome." In: Ken Dowden and Niall Livingstone (eds.), *A Companion to Greek Mythology*. Malden, Oxford and Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell, 243–263.
 - Gentile, John S. 2011. "Prologue: Defining Myth: An Introduction to the Special Issue on Storytelling and Myth." *Storytelling, Self, Society* 7.2, 85–90.
 - Hardwick, Lorna. 1990. "Ancient Amazons – Heroes, Outsiders or Women?" *Greece & Rome* 37.1, 14–36.
 - Johnston, Sarah Iles (et al.). 2004. "Death, the Afterlife, and Other Last Things: Greece, Etruria, Rome." In: Sarah Iles Johnston (ed.), *Religions of the Ancient World: A Guide*. Cambridge MA and London: Harvard University Press, 486–492.
 - Shapiro, Harvey A. 1983. "Hērōs Theos: The Death and Apotheosis of Herakles." *The Classical World* 77.1, 7–18.
- The following primary texts must be read in translation (I have provided links to publicly available online translations on Leganto, but you are welcome to use/read any other translation if you wish):
 - Hesiod, *Theogony*.
 - Homer, *Iliad* Books 1, 6, 24 and *Odyssey* Books 9–12.
 - *Homeric Hymns* 1–5.
 - Livy, *De urbe condita* Book 1.
 - Quintus of Smyrna, *Posthomerica* Book 1.
 - Vergil, *Aeneid* Book 6.

Detailed teaching schedule (subject to modifications)

<i>Lesson (week)</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Syllabus</i>
01 (week 03)	Characteristics and sources of ancient myth	March 2009, intro · Graf 1996, intro · Gentile 2011 · Bär 2020, 7–9
02 (week 04)	The Greek and Roman gods	March 2009, ch. 2 · Bär 2020 · <i>Homeric Hymns</i> 1–5
03 (week 05)	Cosmogony, theogony and anthropogony	March 2009, ch. 1, 3 · Graf 1996, ch. IV · Bär 2020, 22–24 · Hesiod, <i>Theogony</i>
04 (week 06)	Death and the Underworld	March 2009, ch. 17 · Johnston 2004 · Homer, <i>Odyssey</i> Book 11 · Vergil, <i>Aeneid</i> Book 6
05 (week 07)	Herakles/Hercules	March 2009, ch. 6, 7 · Shapiro 1983
06 (week 08)	The Argonauts	March 2009, ch. 4
07 (week 09)	The Theban Saga	March 2009, ch. 9
08 (week 10)	The Trojan Saga	March 2009, ch. 10 · Graf 1996, ch. III · Homer, <i>Iliad</i> Books 1, 6, 24
09 (week 11)	Odysseus/Ulysses	March 2009, ch. 11 · Homer, <i>Odyssey</i> Books 9–12
10 (week 12)	Roman foundation myths	March 2009, ch. 14, 15 · Fox 2011 · Livy, <i>Ab urbe condita</i> Book 1
EASTER BREAK (weeks 13–14)		
11 (week 15)	The Amazons	March 2009, ch. 13 · Hardwick 1990 · Quintus of Smyrna, <i>Posthomerica</i> Book 1
12 (week 16)	Ancient theories of myth	Graf 1996, ch. VIII
13 (week 17)	Modern theories of myth	Graf 1996, ch. I, II · Allen 2011
14 (week 18)	Revision (no lecture)	Revision of all teaching material

Compulsory activities

- In order for you to be able to take the final exam, you have to do two quizzes during the semester. It does not matter how many mistakes you make, but you must do both quizzes before the deadlines.
 - First quiz: deadline: Friday, 12 February 2021, 14:00h.
 - Second quiz: deadline: Friday, 12 March 2021, 14:00h.

Final examination

- Wednesday, 19 May 2021, 09:00–13:00h (digital exam on Inspera; for more information, see <https://www.uio.no/studier/emner/hf/ifikk/ANT2800/v21/eksamen/index.html>).
- Format: 4-hours home examination consisting of two parts that count equally:
 - Part I: 4 short essays (you can choose from 6 topics/questions; scope: 200–400 words per essay).
 - Part II: 1 long essay (scope: 800–1400 words).
- All teaching material (i.e. the entire syllabus, all lecture podcasts, all powerpoint presentations, and all handouts) is relevant to the exam unless something is explicitly marked as optional.
- Instructions and the exam questions will be given in English, but you can choose whether you want to write your essays in English or in Norwegian. (If you write your exam in Norwegian, you have to make sure that the spelling of names and technical terms follows Norwegian conventions.)
- It is recommended that you look at the exam from Spring 2020 (incl. assessment guidelines) for training purposes (see <https://www.uio.no/studier/emner/hf/ifikk/ANT2800/index-eng.html#exam>).
- Please also familiarize yourself with UiO's rules regarding cheating/plagiarism before the exam (see <https://www.uio.no/english/studies/examinations/cheating>).