



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF ART HISTORY, CLASSICS, AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

CLASSICS PROGRAMME CLAS 211/311: MYTH AND STORYTELLING 20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 1 2014

Important dates

Trimester dates: 3 March to 2 July 2014

Teaching dates: 3 March to 6 June 2014

Easter/Mid-trimester break: 18 April to 4 May 2014

Study week: 9 – 13 June 2014

Examination/Assessment Period: 13 June to 2 July 2014

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Class times and locations

9:00-9:50 on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday in Hugh Mackenzie LT002 for Lectures.

Tutorials will occur in weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, and 12; times and venues are TBD. In weeks when there are tutorials, there will be no Monday lecture.

Names and contact details

Dr. Mark Masterson (coordinator)

mark.masterson@vuw.ac.nz

04 4636909

Old Kirk 514 (Office Hours = 10-11 on Mondays and 2:10-3 on Thursdays)

Information on the tutors will be posted on Blackboard.

Communication of additional information

Changes and general information will be announced in class; via Classics notice boards in Old Kirk level 5, opposite rooms OK 504 and 505; via Blackboard; and by email if necessary. Emergency changes and course information will be posted on the Classics notice boards, at the lecture room door when necessary, on Blackboard when possible and by email if needs be. Final examination timetables will be available to students when posted by the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences and Victoria University. It is the student's responsibility to obtain such information and to respond appropriately.

Prescriptions

CLAS 211: A study of the diverse functions of myth and storytelling in Greek and Roman literature and society, and the intersection of mythical and rational modes of thought. Co-taught with CLAS 311. Offered in alternate years.

CLAS 311: A study of the diverse functions of myth and storytelling in Greek and Roman literature and society, and the intersection of mythical and rational modes of thought. Co-taught with CLAS 211: reading supplementary to that for CLAS 211 is required, and a deeper and more extensive knowledge of the subject is expected in in-term work and the final examination. Offered in alternate years.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

By the end of the course, students who pass CLAS 211 will be able to:

1. show increased knowledge of some surviving literary sources from the ancient world involving myth and storytelling;
2. evaluate the significance of these sources and discuss them in a theoretically aware way;
3. identify and discuss in a theoretically aware way the significance of some survivals from ancient myth in more recent literary works and in current society.

By the end of the course, students who pass CLAS 311 will be able to:

1. show increased knowledge of some surviving literary sources from the ancient world involving myth and storytelling;
2. evaluate the significance of these sources and discuss them in a theoretically aware way;
3. identify and discuss in a theoretically aware way the significance of some survivals from ancient myth in more recent literary works and in current society;
4. discuss ancient myth employing more than one modern standpoint on the nature of myth.

Teaching format

The course will be delivered in the lecture hall. There are substantial readings on which the student is expected to spend considerable time. There will be, in addition, six tutorials in which selected topics both central and supplementary to the lectures, readings, and assignments will be discussed. The tutorials will generally have their own readings and they will be posted on Blackboard (as will the readings for the course *with the exception of* the sole set text) in “**Course Content**”. The delivery of the course is dependent in large part on the lecturer but students’ engaged attendance at lectures, active participation in the tutorials, and careful attention to the readings are the things that determine learning.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

- 1) Students must attend five of the six tutorials. In the event a student misses more than one tutorial, they need to make their tutor aware of this fact so they may make up the missing one or two. In the event makeup work must be done, it must be turned in no later than 9 June.
- 2) Students must turn in both writing assignments and the research essay, and sit the final examination.

Workload

In order to complete the course successfully, an average student should expect to spend an average of about 15 hours per week on it, i.e., 3 class hours (3 lectures or 2 lectures and 1 tutorial) and the remainder for reading, tutorial preparation and essay writing. **Please note that these averages are rough guidelines only.** Some students might have to put in more time, others less. The time commitment will be greatest in the weeks work is due. There should be considerable time spent preparing for the final examination also.

Assessment

CLAS 211

Summary: 50% internal, 50% final examination

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|-----|---|-----|
| (1) | 1000-Word Writing Exercise #1
CLOs= 1, 2, 3
[Workload = about 24.3 hours] | 15% |
| (2) | 1000-Word Writing Exercise #2
CLOs= 1, 2, 3
[Workload = about 24.3 hours] | 15% |
| (3) | Research Essay (2000 words)
CLOs= 1, 2, 3
[Workload = about 32.4 hours] | 20% |
| (4) | 2-hour Final Examination
CLOs= 1, 2, 3
[Workload = about 81 hours] | 50% |

CLAS 311

Summary: 50% internal, 50% final examination

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|-----|-------------------------------|-----|
| (1) | 1500-Word Writing Exercise #1 | 15% |
|-----|-------------------------------|-----|

	CLOs= 1, 2, 3 [Workload = about 24.3 hours]	
(2)	1500-Word Writing Exercise #2 CLOs= 1, 2, 3 [Workload = about 24.3 hours]	15%
(3)	Research Essay (2500 words) CLOs= 1, 2, 3, 4 [Workload = about 32.4 hours]	20%
(4)	3-hour Final Examination CLOs= 1, 2, 3, 4 [Workload = about 81 hours]	50%

- The goal of these items of assessment is to establish the extent to which students can demonstrate understanding of myth and its uses through critical response both to an individual topic as researched and written up over a period of time (essay) and to a range of topics covered in the course as a whole as written on a specific occasion within a variably determined time limit (test/exam/writing exercises).
- Each piece of assessed work will be given a grade only, not a percentage mark.
- Students in CLAS 311 will be required to display a wider range and more intensive level of knowledge in the essay and final exam than students in CLAS 211.
- Students in CLAS 311 will also have the occasional extra reading.
- The final grade in this course will be expressed via a letter (A, B, C, etc.) and not in a percentage.

More details:

Writing Exercises:

For **CLAS 211** there will be two writing exercises. Each will be **1000 words** in length. They will be based on material contained in the readings AND/OR lectures. Each assignment will be posted on BlackBoard in the “**Course Content**” section and students **must** submit it there **electronically**. I will not accept hard copies. Late work will be marked down unless arrangements are made because of genuine grounds supported by a doctor's certificate, or some other necessary and demonstrable reason. Students will have about a week and a half to complete each of these assignments. I will discuss the mechanics of turning in these assignments in lecture. Note that these assignments are not meant to be research essays. They are instead an opportunity for students both to show me that they are thinking about the course content and to try out constructing an argument (without the stress of doing additional research).

1000-Word Writing Exercise #1 for CLAS 211 due by 7:00 AM on Wed. 2 April
1000-Word Writing Exercise #2 for CLAS 211 due by 7:00 AM on Wed. 14 May

For **CLAS 311** there will be two writing exercises. Each will be **1500 words** in length. They will be based on material contained in the readings AND/OR lectures. Each assignment will be posted on BlackBoard in the “**Course Content**” section and students **must** submit it there **electronically**. I will not accept hard copies. Late work will be marked down unless arrangements are made because of genuine grounds supported by a doctor's certificate, or some other necessary and demonstrable reason. Students will have about a week and a half to complete each of these assignments. I will discuss the mechanics of turning in these assignments in lecture. Note that these assignments are not meant to be research essays. They are instead an opportunity for

students both to show me that they are thinking about the course content and to try out constructing an argument (without the stress of doing additional research).

1500-Word Writing Exercise #1 for CLAS 311 due by 7:00 AM on Wed. 2 April
1500-Word Writing Exercise #2 for CLAS 311 due by 7:00 AM Wed. 14 May

Research Essay:

a) For CLAS 211 there is a research essay, 2000 words (20%)

Due Date: on or before Friday, May 30 [Note: there is no particular due time on this day]

*****You must submit this paper electronically on BlackBoard in the “Course Content” section.*****

For Essay Topics, see “Course Content” section on Blackboard.

b) For CLAS 311 there is a research essay, 2500 words (20%)

Due Date: on or before Friday, May 30 [Note: there is no particular due time on this day]

*****You must submit this paper electronically on BlackBoard in the “Course Content” section.*****

For Essay Topics, see “Course Content” section on Blackboard.

Final Examination:

CLAS 211 (2 hours; 50%)

I will speak more of the final exam later in the course.

CLAS 311 (3 hours; 50%)

I will speak more of the final exam later in the course.

Submission and return of work

Writing assignments and research essay will be submitted on line. They will be marked in time for students to learn from them before the next assessment is due. The longest marking will ever take will be three weeks and two weeks will be more usual. Assessments will be returned on line.

Extensions and penalties

Late work will more than likely be penalized 2% per day it is late. Work that is excessive in length is liable to incur a penalty also. Students wishing to avoid penalties for late work will have to present documentation and are best advised to make arrangements before hand (if at all possible).

Students are to apply to their tutor in the first place if they need an extension that will not incur a penalty. If a student submits late work, they can anticipate considerable delays in having their work returned to them and they are also liable to receive minimal comment. The final due date for all work exclusive of the final examination is 9 June.

Set text

Eugene O'Neill, *Three Plays: Desire under the Elms, Strange Interlude, Mourning* (Vintage Books 1995)

Vicbooks will have this book: www.vicbooks.co.nz.

The rest of the readings are posted on Blackboard.

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

Student feedback

Enhancements made to this course, based on the feedback of previous students, will be covered during the course.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications

- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library/resources/subjectcontacts.html>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz