

CLAS 211/311

Myth and Storytelling

Trimester 2 2016



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
SCHOOL OF ART HISTORY, CLASSICS AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

CLASSICS PROGRAMME

CLAS 211/311
Myth and Storytelling
20 POINTS

Key dates

Trimester dates: 11 July to 13 November 2016

Teaching dates: 11 July to 16 October 2016

Mid-trimester break: 22 August to 4 September 2016

Study period: 17–20 October 2016

Examination/Assessment Period: 21 October to 12 November 2016

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 in the last three weeks of teaching, or an examination, it may instead be possible to apply for an aegrotat (refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

Class times and locations

Monday	10 – 10:50am	HM LT 205 (Hugh Mackenzie Building)
Wednesday	10 – 10:50am	CO LT 122 (Cotton Building)
Thursday	10 – 10:50am	HM LT 205

Tutorials will occur in weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, and 12. In weeks when there are tutorials, there will be no Thursday lecture.

Tutorial times and locations

Monday 11 – 11:50am in OK526	-	with Alice
Monday 12 – 12:50pm in KP24/101	-	with Richard
Monday 2:10 – 3pm in VZ 107	-	with Richard
Wednesday 11 – 11:50am in OK526	-	with Alice
Thursday 10 – 10:50am in OK526	-	with Christabel
Thursday 11 – 11:50am in OK526	-	with Melanie
Thursday 12 – 12:50pm in OK526	-	with Christabel
Thursday 3:10 – 4pm in OK526	-	with Melanie

Names and contact details

Dr. Mark Masterson (coordinator)

mark.masterson@vuw.ac.nz

04 4636909

Old Kirk 514 (Office Hours = gladly by appointment)

Tutors

- Alice Fairley - alicefairley@gmail.com, office: OK520
- Richard Bott - richardbott0@gmail.com, office: OK502
- Melanie Teahan - mel.sue.tea@gmail.com, office: OK520
- Christabel Marshall - madeyemama@gmail.com, office: OK519

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.

Prescription

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

There are none.

Workload

In order to complete the course successfully, a student should imagine that they will spend 200 hours on the course during the trimester. An average student should expect to spend an average of about 15 hours per week on this class, 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

50% internally assessed, 50% examination

CLAS 211

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Tutorial Exercises	21%	1, 2, 3	Various
2	Writing Exercise #2 (1000 words)	9%	1, 2, 3	09 Aug
3	Research Essay (2000 words)	20%	1, 2, 3	07 Oct
4	Final Examination (2 hours)	50%	1, 2, 3	TBD

CLAS 311

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Tutorial Exercises	21%	1, 2, 3	Various
2	Writing Exercise #2 (1500 words)	9%	1, 2, 3	09 Aug
3	Research Essay (2500 words)	20%	1, 2, 3, 4	07 Oct
4	Final Examination (3 hours)	50%	1, 2, 3, 4	TBD

- 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:

Tutorial Assignments

There are brief exercises associated with five of the six tutorials (1-3, 5 and 6) that will be graded out of three points. Choose any one of the questions that are set for discussion in each tutorial and write a one-paragraph response (150-250 words). Each exercise is worth 3% of your final mark, and you will be marked on the best four out of five. These assignments are to be passed in at the beginning of the tutorial. You must turn them in at the beginning of the tutorial and attend the tutorial. If you cannot attend the tutorial, you will not be able to turn in the assignment. Exceptions may be made in the case of late assignments which are accompanied by a medical certificate or other document demonstrating hardship of some kind that kept you from attending class on the specific date in question. Keep in mind that if you cannot do an assignment or have to miss a tutorial, you do have a “freebie”, as it were.

For tutorial 4, you will be asked to write down what topic you have chosen for your Research Essay, what the general shape you think your essay will have and what sources you have been (or will be) consulting (at least 3 for 211 and at least 5 for 311). This assignment will be graded out of six points. It will be 6% of your final mark

Writing Exercise:

For **CLAS 211** there will be a writing exercise. It will be **1000 words** in length. It will be based on material contained in the readings AND/OR lectures. It 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 the assignment. I will discuss the mechanics of turning in this assignment in lecture. Note that this assignment is not meant to be a research essay. It is 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 for CLAS 211 due on Blackboard, any time of day, on Tuesday 09 August

For **CLAS 311** there will be a writing exercise. It will be **1500 words** in length. It will be based on material contained in the readings AND/OR lectures. It 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 the assignment. I will discuss the mechanics of turning in this assignment in lecture. Note that this assignment is not meant to be a research essay. It is 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 for CLAS 311 due on Blackboard, any time of day, on Tuesday 09 August

Research Essay:

CLAS 211: 2000 words (20%)

Due Date: on or before Friday, October 07 [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.

CLAS 311: 2500 words (20%)

Due Date: on or before Friday, October 07 [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 beforehand (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 Monday, 17 October.

Set texts

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 able to accessed through 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.

Student feedback

The reactions to this course have generally been positive. We will be monitoring reactions this year and will be interested in any suggestion you might have.

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
- 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
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf
- 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
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Terms and conditions: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz