

**The University of Jordan
The Faculty of Foreign Languages
The Department of English**

Course Title: Classical Literature

Course code: 2201451

Prerequisite: None

Course Objectives:

This course aims to familiarize the students with masterpieces of old literature that are considered among the foundations of Western thought. The focus is on the canon of the classical heritage in Greece and Rome.

Learning Outcomes

- A. Knowledge and Understanding:** students should
- Know the major founding myths in classical literature, and
 - Know the features and characteristics of Greek and Roman literature.
- B. Intellectual Skills:** students should
- Be able to analyze the role of the gods in ancient Greek societies, and
 - Compare the myths that informed the lives of ancient people with modern myths that affect their lives.
- C. Transferable Skills:** Students should
- Use the knowledge they have gained in reading works of English literature that make use of Greek mythology.

Texts:

Aeschylus. *The Oresteian Trilogy*. New York: Bantam Books, 1975

Aeschylus. *Prometheus Bound*. Harmondsworth: Penguin Books, 1961

Hamilton, Edith. *Mythology*. New York: Little, Brown and Company, 1942

Homer, *The Odyssey*. London: Penguin Books, 1991

Wilkie, Brian and James Hurt, ed., *Literature of The Western World*, Volume I.

References:

C. M. Bowra, *Homer*, London: Duckworth, 1972

C. M. Bowra, *From Virgil to Milton*, New York: Macmillan, 1967

Cortelle, Arthur. *A Dictionary of World Mythology*, New York: Oxford UP, 1986

Internet Ancient History Sourcebook: <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/asbook.html>

Library of Congress Greek and Latin Classics Internet Resources:

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/main/alcove9/classics.html>

Course Policies:

1. You are expected to attend class on time. Students who come late will **not** be allowed to enter.
2. You are allowed up to 7 absences. If you exceed this number, you will fail the class.
3. **NO MAKE-UP EXAMS. NO EXCEPTIONS.**

4. Participation is an essential part of course works. It does not merely mean coming to class; it involves preparing beforehand and participating in class discussions.

Evaluation:

Mid-term examination	30%
Debates and Assignments	15%
Participation	5 %
Final examination	50%

Course Plan:

Week One	Introduction to Greek Civilization and Mythology World Creation Myths
Week Two	Selections from Homer's <i>The Iliad</i>
Weeks Three - Five	Homer, <i>The Odyssey</i>
Week Six	Aeschylus, <i>Prometheus Bound</i>
Week Seven	Aeschylus, <i>The Oresteian Trilogy: Agamemnon</i>
Al – Adha Holiday	
Weeks Nine	Euripides, <i>Medea</i>
Week Ten - Eleven	Introduction to Roman Civilization The Literary Epic: Virgil, <i>The Aeneid</i> (Selections)
Week Eleven - Twelve	Plato <i>The Republic</i> (Selections)
Week Twelve - Thirteen	Machiavelli <i>The Prince</i> (Selections)
Week Fourteen	<i>Arabian Nights</i> (Selections)
Final Examination 50%	