

Ancient Greece in Film

CLCV 232

Summer 2025



Instructor: Prof. Vincent Tomasso (vincent.tomasso@trincoll.edu)

Meeting: MTWR 10:00AM-11:40AM on Zoom

Office Hour: on Zoom

Credits: 1

Description

What do films set in ancient Greece tell us about our identities now? This course explores the relationship modern artists have constructed with ancient Greece in films. The main focus will be on how contemporary Americans view, depict, and change ancient experiences based on differing circumstances of time and place. Topics for discussion include the distinction between “myth” and “history”, the depiction of gender, the representation of the divine, considerations of the audience, and the mechanics of adaptation.



Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, students will:

- gain** critical perspectives on visual media.
- sharpen** their interpretations with improved nuance.
- convey** their interpretations through clear, concise, and cogent writing.
- present** information and interpretations clearly and concisely.

Prerequisites

none!

Required Text

none!



Evaluation

participation in class: 12% of the final grade
worksheets: 19 @ 1% each = 19% of the final grade
activities: 3 @ 4% each = 12% of the final grade
project part 1: 20% of the final grade
project part 2: 25% of the final grade
presentations: 3 @ 4% each: 12% of the final grade

Grading Scale

100.01+ = A+
100-94 = A
93-90 = A-
89-87 = B+
86-84 = B
83-80 = B-
79-77 = C+
76-74 = C
73-70 = C-
69-67 = D+
66-64 = D
63-60 = D-
59-0 = F



Assignments

Do the assignment before coming to class and be prepared to discuss the material assigned for the session.

I understand that there will be some days when you will not be fully prepared, but you should come to class anyway as you will learn something. Your participation grade will be affected if you do not fully engage with the rest of the class during each session.

Moodle & Email

Other material relevant to this course has been and will continue to be posted on our class page on Moodle. You are responsible for that material.

You are responsible for monitoring your Trinity College email account every day for announcements about this course.



Academic Accommodations

Trinity College is committed to creating an inclusive and accessible learning environment consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Students with disabilities who may need some accommodations are urged to contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center as soon as possible, either by dropping into their office on the ground floor of the library or emailing SARC@trincoll.edu.

Attendance

This class is a **learning community**, in which the participation of every member is important for the learning of all. Because this is an intensive, remote course, you are allowed one (1) day of absence with no questions asked. After that, each absence will result in a zero for the “participation” portion of the grade for that day. The only exception is if you have a note from a medical professional explaining why you have to be absent. You must notify me before the absence.



Schedule

Date	Subject	Assignment
Week 1		
M June 23	introduction	--worksheet #1 due on Moodle by 3 p.m.
T June 24	introduction	--read pages 1-12 and 12-28 --worksheet #2 due on Moodle by 3 p.m.
W June 25	reluctant heroism	--watch Disney's <i>Hercules</i> --read pages 194-203 --worksheet #3 due on Moodle by 3 p.m.
R June 26	reluctant heroism	--watch Disney's <i>Hercules</i> --read pages 203-213 --worksheet #4 due on Moodle by 3 p.m.
Week 2		
Su June 29		activity #1 due on Moodle by 11:59 P.M.
M June 30	reluctant heroism	--watch Ratner's <i>Hercules</i> --read pages 103-115 --presentation #1 --worksheet #5 due on Moodle by 3 p.m.

T July 1	reluctant heroism	--watch Ratner's <i>Hercules</i> --read pages 103-115 --presentation #1 --worksheet #6 due on Moodle by 3 p.m.
W July 2	reluctant heroism	--watch LeTerrier's <i>Clash of the Titans</i> --read pages 129-143 --worksheet #7 due on Moodle by 3 p.m.
R July 3	reluctant heroism	--watch LeTerrier's <i>Clash of the Titans</i> --read pages 129-143 --worksheet #8 due on Moodle by 3 p.m.
Su July 6		project part 1 due by 11:59PM
Week 3		
Sun July 13		activity #2 due on Moodle by 11:59 P.M.
M July 14	reluctant heroism	--watch <i>The Hunger Games</i> --read pages 279-294 --worksheet #9 due on Moodle by 3 p.m.
T July 15	reluctant heroism	--worksheet #10 due on Moodle by 3 p.m.
W July 16	reluctant heroism	--watch <i>The Hunger Games</i> --read pages 294-303 --worksheet #11 due on Moodle by 3 p.m.
R July 17	reluctant heroism	--watch <i>Immortals</i> --read pages 157-179 --worksheet #15 due on Moodle by 3 p.m.
Week 5: Heroes		
Sun July 20		activity #3 due on Moodle by 11:59 P.M.
M July 21	Homeric echoes	--watch <i>Troy</i> --read pages 35-48 --presentation #3 --worksheet #16 due on Moodle by 3 p.m.
T July 22	Homeric echoes	--watch <i>Troy</i> --read pages 48-64 --worksheet #17 due on Moodle by 3 p.m.

W July 23	Homeric echoes	--watch <i>O Brother, Where Art Thou?</i> --read pages 65-81 --worksheet #18 due on Moodle by 3 p.m.
R July 24	Homeric echoes	--watch <i>O Brother, Where Art Thou?</i> --read pages 81-93 --worksheet #19 due on Moodle by 3 p.m.
Project		
Sun July 27		project part 2 due by 11:59PM