

CLA 3930: Heroes, Gods and Monsters (3 credits, class no. 11554) in FLI 0105 (1:55-4:55)

Spring 2019

Professor Jennifer A. Rea

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Office Hours: 11am-1:45pm Mondays & by appt.

TA: Maria Papaioannou e-mail: mpapaioa@ufl.edu

Office Hours: Monday periods 3 & 4 (9:35-11:30 am) and by appointment in **Dauer Hall 125**.

Undergraduate TA: Ruth Chavez e-mail: rchavez96@ufl.edu

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Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives:

The purpose of this course is to investigate the influence of classical literature on modern popular media, to explore various aspects of monster theory, and also to study the origins of monsters within Greek and Roman literature and Greek mythology.

Students Will Learn To:

- Define Monster Theory
- Assess the thematic connections between monsters in Greco-Roman literature and modern popular media
- Critically evaluate the relationship between the ancients' hopes and fears for the future and our modern societal concerns
- Gain an appreciation for Greco-Roman literature's influence on our modern understanding of civilization and progress

Course website on CANVAS: The e-learning support services homepage contains the CANVAS system entry link. The course site provides more detailed information on the assigned readings, announcements, and access to lecture outlines and power points. You may also check your course grade on CANVAS. **All course readings will be provided through web links or CANVAS.**

Course Grading: Your final grade will be based on how well you do on **three equally weighted exams** which will each be worth 1/3 of your final grade. In addition, during the course of the semester you will be given **two opportunities to participate in an extra credit "minute paper"** where you will write an answer to a question based on the day's lecture and each essay you complete will have the ability to raise your final grade one full point. You must be present to participate and hand in your essay at the end of the class period. Regular attendance and active participation in class discussion is expected. You should therefore plan to be present every week and be prepared to discuss the assigned readings. It is extremely difficult to be involved in the learning process unless you participate fully in class activities. Thus, your participation in class

discussion is especially critical. You cannot make an effective contribution to the class if you come to class unprepared, are chronically late, or fail to attend class.

Classroom Policy:

Laptops and other mobile electronic devices are permitted in the classroom only for the purpose of note-taking. Use of mobile phones, electronic devices and computers is prohibited during class for any other reason and students who violate this policy will immediately be dismissed from the class. Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated and students will have one full percentage point deducted from their final grade each time they are dismissed from class.

Late Assignments: You will be allowed to hand in or make up work late only for excused absences, such as required student participation in a university-sponsored event (you must submit official documentation to the professor from the appropriate faculty or staff member before the event); religious holidays (notify the professor within the first two weeks of class); medical emergencies (with documentation from a health care provider); family emergencies (with valid written documentation). Regarding medical and family emergencies, it is your responsibility to notify me as soon as possible that you will need accommodations. Students with a valid excuse have **one week** after a missed assignment (or one week after recovering from an illness) to hand in the work.

Grading Scale:

A = 90 or above	C = 70-73
A- = 87-89	C- = 67-69
B+ = 84-86	D+ = 64-66
B = 80-83	D = 60-63
B- = 77-79	D- = 57-59
C+ = 74-76	E = 56 or below

Grading Scale with GPA Equivalencies

A = 4.0
A- = 3.67
B+ = 3.33
B = 3.0
B- = 2.67
C+ = 2.33
C = 2.0
C- = 1.67
D+ = 1.33
D = 1.0
D- = 0.67
E = 0.0

- A **C-** grade will **not** qualify for major, minor, Gen Ed, Gordon Rule or College Basic Distribution credit. UF does not consider C- to be a passing grade.

This course is in compliance with all UF policies regarding attendance, special needs and academic honesty. For details, see

<http://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>
(attendance);

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/> (special needs);

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/studentguide/studentrights.php>
(academic honesty).

ADA Requirements:

If you have any disability or special concern, it is your responsibility to notify me at the start of the semester so that your needs may be accommodated. You will also need to give me a letter from the Dean of Students Office indicating that you need academic accommodations *at the start of the semester*.

Counseling and Mental Health Services at UF:

Students who have difficulty completing the course or who have need of counseling should contact the UF Counseling and Wellness Center at (352) 392-1575 or www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc

Students will be expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online and students will be given specific instructions as to when the online link will be available. Generally the evaluations are offered online during the last 2-3 weeks of the semester.

RESOURCES OUTSIDE OF UF:

If you are a classics major and are in need of financial help, you can contact The Sportula

"We provide microgrants—petty cash ranging from \$5 to \$300, no questions asked, to Classics undergrads who need it." Find out more about The Sportula [here](#).

(N.B. Syllabus is subject to change)

COURSE SCHEDULE

INTRO TO MONSTER THEORY

Monday, January 7th

Course Introduction/Definitions of the Divine/Heroic/Monstrous

Monster Theory, Part I (Viewing: *Prometheus*)

Reading Aeneid 1 and Aeneid 2 (see CANVAS)

Monday, January 14th

Monster Theory, Part II/The Monster on the Threshold

(Viewing: *Dr. Who: The Eleventh Hour*)

Theseus and the Minotaur

Reading: (posted in CANVAS)

Monday, January 21st (no class, MLK Day)

Jason & Medea

Reading: Selections from the *Argonautica* (posted in CANVAS)

Monday, January 28th

August 30 Odysseus and the Cyclops (Viewing: *O Brother, Where Art Thou?*)

Reading: *Odyssey* Books 9 and 24 (see CANVAS)

Monday, February 4th

Reading: Ovid (in CANVAS) and Aeneid 3-4 (see CANVAS)

Heroes and the Divine in the Ara Pacis Augustae

Exam #1

GREEKS AND ROMANS AND THE MONSTROUS FANTASTIC

Monday, February 11th

Reading: Vibia Perpetua and Felicitas (see CANVAS)

Monday, February 18th

Monsters in Ovid and Vergil

Reading: Horace 2.20, Cleopatra Ode, and Ars Poetica (excerpts) and Odes 3.4 (reading in CANVAS)

Monday, February 25th

Visual Monstrosities (Images from Rome)

Viewing: *BtVS*: “The Zeppo”

Reading: *Aeneid* 5-6 (see CANVAS)

Monday, March 4th (no class, Spring Break)

EVERYDAY HEROES IN GREECE & THE ROMAN EMPIRE

Monday, March 11th

Hercules in Vergil and Propertius

Reading: *Aeneid* Books 7-8) and Propertius 4.9 (see CANVAS)

Viewing: *Pan's Labyrinth*

Monday, March 18th

Female Monsters (Viewing: *BtVS*: "The Wish")

Medea

Reading: *Medea* (see CANVAS)

Exam #2

Monday, March 26th

Aeneas and his companions (Viewing: *BtVS*: "The Gift")

Reading: *Aeneid*: Books 9-10 (see CANVAS)

Monday, April 1st

Aeneas's Shield

Viewing: *Supernatural* "Remember the Titans"

Gigantomachy & female monsters

Reading: TBA

Monday, April 8th

Aeneas and Turnus

Reading: *Aeneid*: Books 11-12 (see CANVAS)

Viewing: *The Black Panther*

Monday, April 15th

Oedipus the King (Viewing: *Get Out*)

Reading: *Oedipus Rex* (see CANVAS)

Monday, April 22

Exam #3