Greek Mythology
Semester 1

Grade Level: 9–12
Credit: 0.5

Course Overview

Step into a world of gods and heroes, monsters and mortals, and epic stories that have shaped art, literature, and culture for over 2,000 years. In Greek Mythology – Semester 1, students will explore the myths of ancient Greece—not just as fascinating tales, but as a window into the values, fears, triumphs, and imagination of an ancient civilization. With stories that are larger than life and lessons that still resonate today, this course brings the past to life through discussion, creative projects, and deep exploration of timeless themes.

Perfect for lovers of literature, storytelling, history, or adventure, this course offers something for every curious mind. Whether students dream of becoming writers, historians, artists, or philosophers, the stories of Olympus will ignite their creativity and deepen their understanding of the human experience.

What Students Will Explore

The course begins with the origins of the Greek world—creation myths, the Titans, and the rise of the Olympian gods. Students will meet Zeus, Hera, Athena, Poseidon, and the rest of the pantheon, learning each deity's domain, personality, and influence on mythology and culture.

As the semester unfolds, students explore epic tales and tragic heroes: the trials of Heracles, the journey of Odysseus, the love of Orpheus and Eurydice, and the fall of Icarus. Through these stories, they will examine recurring themes such as fate vs. free will, hubris, love, vengeance, and the power of prophecy.

In the second half of the course, students investigate the myths' lasting impact—how they influenced ancient Greek society, shaped literature and language, and continue to inspire modern books, movies, and art. Students will compare Greek myths with those of other cultures and explore how mythology helped people make sense of the natural world.

Key Learning Experiences

- Olympian Family Tree Project – Build a visual genealogy of the gods and goddesses
- Myth Analysis Essays – Interpret and analyze mythological stories and characters
- Creative Retellings – Reimagine classic myths through original stories, comics, or scripts
- Cultural Connections – Explore how Greek mythology has influenced everything from astronomy to advertising
- Hero's Journey Case Studies – Examine how mythological structure influences modern storytelling

Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify and describe major Greek gods, goddesses, heroes, and mythological creatures
- Analyze common themes, archetypes, and symbols found in Greek myths
- Explain how Greek mythology reflects ancient cultural values, beliefs, and social structures
- Interpret and compare mythological texts through close reading and discussion
- Connect ancient myths to modern literature, media, and popular culture
- Create original works inspired by classical mythology using a variety of formats

Student Outcomes & Successes

Students who complete this course come away with a deep appreciation for one of the most enduring storytelling traditions in human history. They become more confident readers and writers, better critical thinkers, and more culturally aware individuals. Many produce creative writing, visual art, or performance pieces inspired by myth.

Others carry these mythic themes into future studies in literature, film, art, or even psychology and philosophy. Regardless of their path, students leave the course with minds enriched, imaginations sparked, and a renewed curiosity about the ancient world—and their own.

The course is a fully online, self-paced, competency-based program, and we're very proud of it!

Students only advance once they've demonstrated true mastery of each skill—no rushing, no guessing. This flexible structure not only supports individual learning styles and schedules but also empowers learners to take ownership of their progress, knowing exactly what they can do next.

Moreover, every module, assignment, and assessment is meticulously aligned with state standards and clear learning objectives, guaranteeing comprehensive coverage of essential knowledge and real-world skills students need to succeed. This isn't just online learning—it's purposeful, rigorous, and personalized, ensuring no student advances until they truly understand the material.