

CLAS203 Lecture Notes

CLAS203 Lecture 10 Notes

Zeus:

- Zeus' other names include: Juppiter, Jupiter, Jove
- Upholder of the universe
- *di-: 'sky/shine'
- Germanic: **Tiu** (Tuesday)
- Indic: **Dyaus Pitar** 'Father Sky'
- 'Cloud gatherer', '**aegis**-bearing' (goat skin shield, used by Athena as breastplate)
- Resides on **Mt. Olympus**, born in **Mt. Dicte**, born in other genealogies in **Mt. Ida**
- Symbols: Thunderbolt, eagle, sceptre (staff, rod)
- Sacred animal: bull
- Ruler: wisdom, strength, justice (**dike**)
- **Zeus: (xenia)**: guest-host relationship
- Shrines: **Dodona, Olympia**

Zeus' immortal consorts:

- Zeus + Hera (Olympian) → **Ares, Hephaestus**, Eliethyia (asexual)
- Zeus + Demeter (Olympian) → **Persephone**
- Zeus + Leto (Titan) → **Apollo, Artemis**
- Zeus + Themis (Titan) → **Moirae (3)**, Horae (3) (imposes order on universe)
- Zeus + Dione (early **hieros gamos?**) → Aphrodite
- Zeus + Metis (Personification) → **Athena**
- Zeus + Mnemosyne (Personification) → **Muses (9)**
- Zeus + Eurynome (Oceanid) → Graces (3)
- Zeus + Maia (Nymph) → **Hermes**

Zeus' mortal consorts:

- Zeus + Semele → **Dionysus (immortal)**
- Zeus + Io → **Epaphus**
- Zeus + Europa → **Minos, (Rhadamanthys, Sarpedon)**
- Zeus + Danae → **Perseus**
- Zeus + Leda → **Dioscuri (Castor, Polydeuces)**
- Zeus + Alcmena → **Heracles**

Hera:

- Hera's other names: Juno
- Name preHellenic
- Retains power of **parthenogenesis**

- 'Cow-eyed'
- Early deity: Argos, Samos, Olympia
- **Argives** (Greeks)
- Marriage, family: hates adultery
- Daughter **Eileithyia**: goddess of childbirth
- Persecutes Zeus' mistresses and their children
- Loyal to Zeus (no affairs)
- Never addressed as 'mother', or shown with children

Poseidon and Triton:

- Poseidon's other name: Neptune
- God of the sea, earthquakes, horses
- **'Earthshaker'**
- 'Posis' 'Lord' + 'de-'? ('wheat'?)
- Had a trident
- **Amphitrite, Triton** (conch)
 - Shapechanger (Nereus, **Proteus**)
- Sacred animal: horse, bull
- Two navigational hazards – **Scylla** (mistress of Poseidon, Amphitrite poisons her bathing area, changes her into a monster) and **Charybdis** (known for her terrible appetite; Zeus changes her into a whirlpool) (**straits of Messina** – between Italy and Sicily)
- Demeter: **Arion** (the talking-horse)
- Contests: **Argos** (Hera); **Athens** (Athene)
- **Polyphemus** (Cyclopes) and **Galatea**

CLAS203 Lecture 11 Notes

The Forge of Hephaestus:

- Always seen depicted in art with tools, which demonstrates his trade
- In many stories, Hephaestus made many magical/remarkable items such as the thread to get out of a labyrinth

Hephaestus:

- Other names include Volcanus, Vulcan
- Non-Greek origin
- Island of **Lemnos**
- Two variants: son of Zeus and Hera/son of Hera
- Serious: art, love
- God of fire and forge (useful fire)

- Patron of metalworkers, smiths
- Promoter of civilization and city life
- Physical deformity, lack of beauty
- Wife: **Aphrodite** (contrast)
- Lusted after **Athene** (birth of **Erichthonius**)
- Objects made by Hephaestus
 - **Pandora** (clay)
 - Manacles binding Prometheus
 - Ball of unbreakable thread (Ariadne)
- Thrown down from Olympus
- Rescued by **Thetis** and the Nereids
- **'Return to Olympus'**
- **Volcanus**: destructive fire

Ares:

- Can be identified by always wearing armour
- Also known as Mars
- Incarnation of blood lust: merciless, fearless
- "The most hated of all gods"
- Originates in Thrace
- Few myths, worshipped little
- No wife
- Children by Aphrodite: **Eros**, Harmonia
- Homer, ***Odyssey*, bk. 8**: Ares, Aphrodite and Hephaestus
- **Mars**: Very important god to the Romans

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Hermes:

- Other name is Mercury (to the Romans)
- Often depicted in art by his pointed traveller hat, herald staff with intertwining snakes and his winged boots
- **Herma**: stone heap marker
- Herald and messenger of the gods
- Is constantly moving; in constant motion
- Protector of:
 - Travellers
 - Those living in the wilderness (**Arcadia**)
 - Shepherds and flocks

- Merchants and thieves (Lat. **Merx**)
- Heralds
- **Psychompompos: 'soul guide'** (Hermes' job to guide the human souls to the river that divides the upper world to lower world)
- **Argeiphontes: 'slayer of Argus'**
- Divine trickster
- Symbols:
 - **Petatus** (traveller's hat)
 - **Caduceus** (herald's wand)
 - Winged sandals
- Similarity to Apollo (young, handsome, close to shepherds)
- Homeric Hymn to Hermes
 - Son of **Maia** (born in cave)
 - Pieria, Alpheus River
 - **Cyllenian** Hermes
- Offspring: **Pan, Hermaphroditus (Salmacis)**
- **Syrinx, Echo**

Apollo:

- Prophecy, healing, music
- Epithet: **Phoebus** - 'Shining One'
- Joins gods on Olympus
- Motif of musical contests
 - **Marsyas** (satyr)
 - **Pan: Tmolus and Midas**
- Contradictory nature
 - Healer/destroyer
 - Compassionate/ruthless
 - Rational control/extreme emotion
- Origins obscure
- In Greece circa 2000 BC
- 'Good Shepherd'/sun god
- Antithesis to **Dionysus**
- **Birth: Leto's** persecution
 - **Delos, Ortygia** (Cyclades)
 - **Eileithyia**

CLAS203 Lecture 14 & 15 Notes

WILL NOT BE TESTED

CLAS203 Lecture 16 Notes

Hestia:

- Is oldest and youngest of the Olympians; born first, but vomited last by Cronus
- Also known as Vesta
- Always paired up with Hermes (duality of traveller vs. someone who doesn't move at all)
- Represents the unmoving center
- First born of Cronus and Rhea
- Virgin: rejects both Poseidon and Apollo
- Never left Olympus
- Goddess of the hearth – **sacred fire**
- Defines internal space of female world
 - Woman's duty to tend the fire
- Left out the canon of the Olympians
- **Vesta**: goddess of hearth as center of family life (extended to the Roman community; was more important to Roman's than the Greeks)
- **Vestal Virgins**: Temple of Vesta in Roman Forum
- Highly regarded and important

Aphrodite:

- Influential and interesting goddess
- Also known as Venus (Roman)
- Ancient (12 c. BC), non-Greek – probably coming to Greece from the east
- Two genealogies:
 - First generation gods – springs from semen of castration of Uranus
 - Daughter of Zeus and Dione
- Double origin
 - **Cyprus (Cypris), Cythera** – two islands associated with her
 - Two names: **Ourania** (heavenly Aphrodite), **Pandemos** (for all people)
- Sexual attraction, beauty
- Power over even the gods
- Sacred animal: dove
- Worship of Aphrodite/Inanna/Ishtar/Astarte: temple prostitution
- Myths:
 - **Pygmalion** (king of Cyprus) and **Galatea** (comes to life from a statue through Pygmalion praying to Aphrodite)
 - **Paphos** (daughter of Pygmalion and Galatea) and **Cinyras** (a king), **Myrrha** (daughter of Paphos and Cinyras, punished to love her father because Paphos said she was as beautiful as Aphrodite. Gets pregnant and her father was about to kill her, when she prays and gets turned into a myrr tree), **Adonis** (son of Myrrha and her father Cinyras)

- **Anchises** (*Homeric Hymn to Aphrodite*)
- **Eros**
 - **Plato's Symposium**: the tale of **Aristophanes**
 - **Psyche** and **Cupid** (Apuleius: *The Golden Ass*)
- **Venus**: mother of the Romans (the coupling through **Aeneas**)
 - Consort was Mars

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Athena:

- Also known as Minerva (Roman)
- Always has her war gear, her helmet, shield, spear
- Non-Greek origin
- Early arrival in Greece (Linear B tablets)
- Virgin goddess
- Symbols: owl, serpent (at feet, on shield), **aegis** (goat skin pad)
- Born from Zeus' head – deification of wisdom
- Teacher of arts **weaving**
 - Carpentry (shipbuilding – Jason's Argo)
 - Taming and training of horses
 - Inventor of the flute
- Protectress of the **hero**
 - **Perseus** (son of **Danae**) – kills the Gorgon (Medusa)
 - **Jason** (son of **Aeson**) – the Golden Fleece
 - **Bellerophon** – tames flying horse Pegasus
 - **Achilles** (son of **Peleus**) – Trojan War
 - **Odysseus** (son of **Laertes**) – Trojan War
- Goddess of war: spear, helmet, shield
 - On shield, aegis, Gordon's head
- Epithets
 - **'glaukōpis'** – 'grey/keen/owl-eyed'
 - **Pallas Athena Tritogenia**
 - **(Palladium)** – Odysseus, Diomedes
- Athena and **Arachne**
- **Minerva**: Italian deity, introduced by Etruscans
- Armed woman, original war goddess?
- Shared festival with Mars
- Goddess of activities of mental skill (*men-)

Artemis:

- Other name is Diana (Roman)
- Twin to **Apollo**
- '**Mistress of Animals**'
- Birth on **Ortygia (Delos)**
- Goddess of chastity, huntress: pitiless
- Silver bow, deer
- Myths:
 - **Niobe** (Queen of Thebes, mother of many children. Niobe ridicules women who went to pay tribute to Leto who is Apollo and Artemis' mother. Apollo slays all of Niobe's sons and Artemis slays all of Niobe's daughters with their arrows. Crying her eyes out, Zeus pities Niobe and transforms her into a rock)
 - **Actaeon** (Was born to a good family; is a hunter and would go through the woods with his pack of hounds. He comes across Artemis and her nymphs while bathing and saw Artemis nude, she punishes Actaeon by turning him into a deer, who gets rip to shreds by Actaeon's own pack of hounds)
 - **Callisto and Arcas** (Callisto was a nymph of Artemis. When sleeping under a tree, Zeus has his way with her. No longer a virgin, Callisto hides the fact from Artemis, expect was discovered when she becomes pregnant. Artemis turns Callisto into a bear out of rage and the bear gives birth to a human boy named Arcas who was raised by hunters. Years later, Arcas noticed he was followed by a female bear and upon stringing his bow; Zeus stops Arcas from shooting his mother. Zeus honours Callisto and Arcas by placing them into the heavens as constellation)
 - **Hippolytus**, son of **Theseus** (Euripides' Hippolytus)
- **Diana**: same attributes

Demeter:

- Another name is Ceres (Roman)
- Mother goddess (-**meter** = '**mother**')
- Fruitfulness of crops, especially wheat
- Daughter is **Persephone** (Zeus and Demeter): 'the two goddesses'
 - Permanently fertile earth: seasonal giver of grain
 - **Kore** (means young women; alternate name for Persephone – daughter),
Proserpine: *parthenos* (means the girl not yet women)
- Abduction by **Hades** (Homeric Hymn to Demeter)
- Etiology
 - Marriage
 - Presence of death in the world
 - Allegory of seasons?

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Demeter:

- Abduction of Persephone by **Hades** where the ground rips open, a black chariot snatches Persephone and takes her away. Persephone vanishes and Demeter leaves all her fertility tasks while searching for her daughter all over the world. While Demeter rests at a well (in a disguise as an old woman), the daughters of a king from a nearby palace offer Demeter to go back with them to their home. While at the palace, the queen (Metaneira) hire Demeter to be the nurse for her newborn son (Demophon). While Demeter tends to Demophon, she grants him the gift of immortality by holding him over a fire (requires more than one treatment).
- **Eleusis: Metaneira, Demophon, Triptolemus**
 - Gift of **agriculture** – taught to Triptolemus
 - Triptolemus was often seeing in a winged chariot, given by Persephone to spread the gift of agriculture
 - Lyncus, king of the Scythians refused gift and so was turned into a lynx
- **Eleusinian Mysteries**
 - **Lesser:** yearly; **greater:** every 5 years
 - Mystai, Telesterion, Anakteron
 - **Pan-Hellenic** (open to all Greek speakers without blood guilt)
 - **Secret;** penalty for revealing mysteries: death
 - Lasted until 396 AD

Dionysus:

- Often known as Bacchus (Roman)
- **Cadmus**
 - Cadmus marries Harmonia; have many children. One of them, Semele, is the only mortal who has a child with Zeus who becomes an Olympian
 - Son of **Agenor**, king of **Tyre**
 - King of **Thebes**
 - Eastern ties (**Thrace, Phrygia**)
 - Late introduction into Greece?
 - Portrayed as strange and foreign god
 - Other seen with a satyr
 - Oriental dress (long robes)
 - Often seen with a long beard, agriculture/vegetation around him, and is carrying a drinking horn
 - Dionysus comes into contact with his worshippers more so than any other gods
 - Myth motifs:
 - **Travels** – not always welcomed back into Greece because he was not Greek
 - **Resistance**

- Name: **'twice born'**
- **Death of Semele**
- **Birth from Zeus' thigh**
- Nursed by **Ino and Thamas** or the **nymphs of Nysa** (Nysa not on map)
- **Madness of Ino and Athamas** (As a result of Hera being jealous over Zeus having kids with other consorts)
- God of:
 - Vegetation (especially **vine, ivy**)
 - Wine (and other fluid)
 - Animals (especially bear, panther, lion, leopard)
 - Fertility: **'dying god'**
 - Death and rebirth
- Cult and worship:
 - **Thiasus** – band of followers; identified by staff of fennel and/or topped by pinecones
 - **Thyrsus**
 - **Omophagia** – the eating of raw food
 - **Sparagmos** – the ripping apart
 - **Bacchae, Bacchantes, Maenads**
- Worship characteristics:
 - **Ekstasis 'standing outside of oneself'**
 - **Enthousiamos 'god within'**
 - Irrational behaviour: liberation from constraints of reason, tradition
 - Furious music and dance
 - Intense music and dance
 - Intense emotion
 - Loss of personal identity
- Opposed by **Hera**: woman's role to preserve stability of family
- **Background to myths:**
 - Discovers wine making in **Nysa**
 - Hera strikes him with madness: wanders in delirium
- **Wanderings:**
 - **Egypt, Syria**
 - Phrygia: cured of madness by goddess Cybele
 - Crosses Euphrates
 - Goes as far as **India**
- Returns by **Phrygia: Midas and Silenus** (follower of Dionysus, is a satyr)
- Rescue of **Ariadne** (daughter of Minos) – Dionysus marries her
 - Helped **Theseus** kill Minotaur (**Crete**)
 - Abandoned on **Naxos**
- **Resistance:**
 - **Thrace**: opposed by **Lycurgus** (several variants)

- Dionysus goes to Thrace and asks them to worship him. King of Thrace opposes his rule. Dionysus strikes the people of Thrace to be mad. The inhabitants of Thrace stake out the king and stake him out to the meadows to be eaten by man-eating horses raw
- **Orchomenus (see map):** King **Minyas** and his daughter, the **Minyads** (bats)
 - King Minyas and the Minyads want nothing to do with Dionysus. As other woman of Orchomenus goes to worship Dionysus, the Minyads refuse and make jokes about Dionysus. A boy appears in the middle of the room. Darkness soon falls, milk drips from the furniture, and furious music ensues. The Minyads are driven mad, goes out to the wilderness (one Minyad rips her son in half) and eventually are turned into bats

CLAS203 Lecture 19 Notes

Dionysus:

- **Resistance:**
 - **Argos:** King **Proetus and** his daughter, the **Proetids**
 - Similar to the daughters of Minyads. The Proetids are driven mad and think they are cows. They go out into the wilderness and start feasting on infants and finally two gets reclaimed.
 - **Attica (Icarius):** **Icarius** (not Icarus!), Erigone, Maera
 - Dionysus is hosted by Icarius in Attica. Dionysus rewards Icarius by telling him the secret of making wine. Icarius puts this knowledge into practice and decides to share the wine with all the other inhabitants. The other inhabitants in Attica think Icarius is trying to poison him so they kill Icarius. Icarius' daughter Erigone, and her dog Maera, go to search for Icarius' body. Upon finding it, in despire, Erigone and Maera commit suicide. Dionysus afflicts the area with famine and with madness. It takes the intervention of the king of Athens to punish the murderers before the madness leaves and the women become fruitful again.
 - **Thebes: Tiresias, Cadmus, Pentheus, Agave** (Baccae by Euripides)
 - Dionysus wants to go home and visit his home city. He goes to Thebes and has two goals: to establish himself as a god to be worshipped and to punish the sisters of Semele for spreading rumours about her, particularly Agave. Dionysus comes with a group of his followers, the Baccae, and encourages the people of Thebes to worship him. Some women and men are very much in agreement to join the Baccae. Tiresias, the prophet, and Cadmus, the aging King of Thebes are part of Dionysus followers. Cadmus passed on the throne to his son, Pentheus, who does not want anything to do with worshipping Dionysus is on the verge to calling the army to get back the women who have gone out to worship Dionysus. A young boy

appears in Pentheus' courtroom who warns him that the god should not be opposed and is dangerous. The boy tells Pentheus to accept the god, but instead of accepting the offer, Pentheus has the boy chained. Following the act, there is an earthquake and the palace is in ruins; the only thing remained standing is the prison where the young boy was. Warning Pentheus the second time, Pentheus agrees to go see what the women who were worshipping Dionysus were doing. Pentheus' mother, Agave, and other sisters rip the king from the tree and rip him to shreds as if he was a wild beast. Bringing the head of her son (thinking it was a lion) back to Thebes the next day proclaiming she killed an animal, the madness leaves her upon seeing Cadmus and realizes what she has done. At that point, Dionysus appears and says to Cadmus and Agave for their offense against him, they have to be exile from Thebes and cannot bury their son, Pentheus

- **Dionysus and the pirates** (Homeric Hymn to Dionysus)
 - **Tyrrhenian:** Etruscan
- **Dionysus:** god of **tragedy** ('trag': 'goat' – 'oidia': 'song')
- Dionysus **Zagreus:** orphism

Death, Dying and the Dead:

- Complex attitudes towards death and the dead
- Bleak conception of afterlife
- Happiness must be achieved in this world
- A few mythical figures escape death
 - **Elysian Fields** – fields of blessed ruled by Cronus; where people who escape death in fullness dwell. Fields of blessed in underworld is the happiest area in the underworld, though still not in much existence
 - **Apotheosis** – being made a god (i.e. Heracles)
 - Motif of **Katabasis: 'going down'** – overcoming death/conquest of death is most easily signified by the figure of the hero going down into the underworld physically and then coming back up again successfully
 - Recurrent motif (example: Persephone)

Hades:

- Known as Pluto (Roman)
- **Pluto 'enricher'** (Lat. Dis)
- **Polyxenos** - meaning much hospitable; another name for Hades
- Wife **Persephone**
- Often depicted with '**cornucopia**' 'horn of plenty'
- Body/soul distinction (**psyche**)
- Ghosts (**eidola**): shadowy existence in Hades
 - Invisible, unhappy, dangerous

- Views of death: a crossing over
 - **Odysseus (Homer's Odyssey)** – told by sorcerous to find ghost of Tiresias to get directions back home
 - (Sorcerous) **Circe, Tiresias**
 - Sails to shores of Ocean
 - Summons ghosts of the dead
 - **Elpenor** (one of his crewmember on Odysseus' ship), **Anticlea** (mother of Odysseus)
 - **Minos** (King of Crete), **Rhadamanthys**: judges in Hades
 - **Aeacus**: gatekeeper; **Cerberus** (3-headed dog of Hades)
- Great sinners:
 - **Tityus** (Giant who attempted to rape Leto, Artemis and Apollo's mother)
 - **Tantalus (Pelops)** (Favourite of the gods. Invites the gods to his house for a feast. He gives in to desire to test the gods. Kills his son, cooks his son and attempts to serve his son to the gods. Only Demeter, because of Persephone took a bite of the shoulder. Gods punish him by never allowing him to reach food/water)
 - **Sisyphus (Thanatos)** (Is condemned to roll a huge boulder to the top of a hill where it rolls back down; has to do this for eternity. He gets this punishment because he rapes Odysseus' mother on her wedding day and also tattles on Zeus)

CLAS203 Lecture 20 Notes

Hades:

- **Orpheus** (was son of Cretan King and a muse) **and Eurydice**
 - Death of **Eurydice**
 - **Katabasis**
 - Death of **Orpheus**
- **Aeneas** (Virgil's Aeneid) – was a Trojan prince who flees Troy and is the founder of Rome and the Romans. Must go to underworld to consult with father in order to find out where to go for his future quest. Aeneas has to go see the Sibyl of Cumae to get to the underworld. Aphrodite (mother of Aeneas) gives her son a golden bow to present to Persephone that he was chosen by fate to lead the quest of founding Rome.
 - **Sibyl of Cumae** (priestess of Apollo with gift)
 - **Palinurus** (part of Aeneas sailing crew who died but was not buried), **Acheron** (river meaning sorrowful – divides upper and lower world), **Charon** (ferryman who carries the souls of the dead), **Dido** (Queen of Tere, who committed suicide because Aeneas abandoned her)
 - **Tartarus**: great sinners
 - **Danaids** (daughter of **King Danaus**)
 - **Elysium/Elysian Fields: Anchises**

- **River Lethe: Transmigration** of souls
- **Katabasis**
 - **Theseus** (wants to marry Helene of Troy, but since she was still a girl, he leaves her in the care of his mother) and **Pirithous** (wants to marry Persephone)
 - **Heracles**, on his own journey in the underworld, saves Theseus, but leaves a bit of his thighs behind. Pirithous does not get saved

Hero:

- Well born, noble warrior (Homer)
- Marvellous figure of the distant past
- Heroes of epic: worshipped as powers
- Dwelling beneath the earth: **chthonic**
- Hero cults
 - **Heroa** (c. 800 BC) cult places for worship
 - Focused on ancient tombs (**tumuli**)
 - Associated with hero of myth
 - Encouraged by spread of heroic texts?
- Near Eastern sources for heroic myth: Epic of Gilgamesh

Common Motifs of Heroic Myth:

- Divine parentage; miraculous birth
- Great strength; menace to those around him
- Faithful male companion
- Falls under enemy's power
- Compelled to perform impossible labours
- Breaks a taboo: terrible price demanded
- Resists temptation (often woman)
- Responsible for death of companions
- Quest, **katabasis**
- Return home: great rewards
- Some kind of immortality after death
- **Io**: metamorphosis, **Argus**, gadfly, wanderings
- **Bosphorus, Prometheus, Epaphus** (child of Io and Zeus; name meaning "he who has been touched")
- Epaphus has a daughter, named **Libya**, who mates with Poseidon to have twins named, **Belus and Agenor**
- **Danaus and Aegyptus** are hostile twins from Belus. Danaus has 50 daughters (**the Danaids**) while Aegyptus has 50 sons.
- **Belus**: king of Libya/Egypt
- **Danaus** (Libya) and **Aegyptus** (Egypt): hostile twins
- Flight of **Danaus** flees to **Argos** to avoid forced marriage of daughters to Aegyptus' sons

- **Danaus:** eponymous ancestor of the **Danaans** (Greeks)
- Anyone of Poseidon: swamps of **Lerna**
- Pursuit of Danaids and marriage
 - **Hypermnestra** (does not listen to Danaus and murders her husband) and Lynceus
 - (earlier versions: no punishment for Danaids)
- **Abas: Acrisius and Proetus** (hostile twins)
 - **Proetus: Tiryns** (Cyclopean walls)
 - **Acrisius: Argos**
 - The story of Danae and the 'Golden Shower'

CLAS203 Lecture 21 Notes

Hypermnestra and Lynceus to Perseus:

- Gives birth to Abas
- Abas has kids, a pair of hostile twins named **Acrisius and Proetus**
- **Acrisius and Proetus** fights for power. It ends up **Acrisius** becomes king of **Argos** while **Proetus** becomes king of **Tiryns**
- **Acrisius**, dispirit to have a son, cannot get one, but rather, has a daughter named **Danae**
 - Puts Danae in a bronze chamber so she could not get pregnant because the oracle tells Acrisius that his grandchildren will kill him

Perseus:

- The son of Zeus and Danae via the "Golden Shower"
- Birth of Perseus:
 - Oracle
 - **'The girl's tragedy'**
 - Prohibition
 - Seclusion
 - Violation of prohibition
 - Threat of death
 - Liberation – **Dictys** (fisherman who finds Danae and Perseus in a chest), **Seriphos** (island)*** (**IMPORTANT**)
- The quest:
 - Threat to member of family: Danae – **Polydectes** (King of Seiphos, brother is Dictys)
 - Hero sent on quest – **Gorgon's head (Medusa)**
 - Acquires magical aids – **Athena, Graeae** (three old hags with one working eye and tooth; only characters who can help Perseus defeat Medusa)
 - Cap of darkness
 - Winged sandals

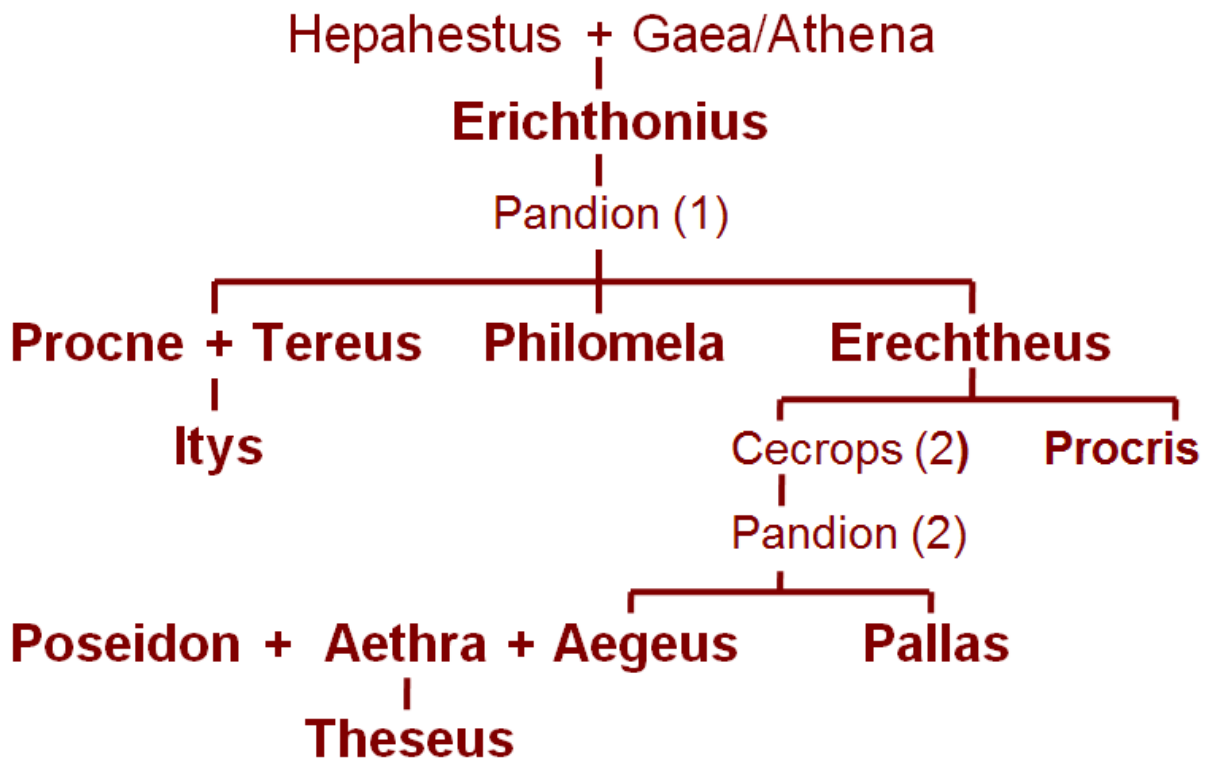
- **Kibisis** (leather pouch to store things in)
 - Scimitar from **Hermes**: link with Peloponessus
 - Reaches goal in far-away land – Hyperborea
 - Combat with villain
 - (temporary setback): missing
 - Vanquishing of enemy (**birth of Pegasus**)
 - Pursuit and escape
- Two versions of return home
 - **Seriphos version**
 - **Simple return**
 - **Recognition**
 - Punishment of villain: **Polydectes**
 - petrified
 - Alternate version of return home
 - Rewards of maiden and kingdom
 - Ethiopia: **Cepheus** (son of Belus), **Cassiopeia** (wife of Cepheus who said she was more beautiful than the sea nymphs who complains to Poseidon)
 - **Andromeda** (daughter of Cepheus and Cassiopeia; was about to be killed by sea monster because of Poseidon, but Perseus saves her and claims her as his wife), Phineus (brother of Cepheus, previously married to Andromeda), Perses (son of Perseus and Andromeda)
- Death of **Acrisius** – hears that Perseus is coming. Remembering the oracle, he goes up north to see the king Theseus for refuge. Perseus follows suit.
- Exchange of **Argos** for **Tiryns** with **Megapenthes**, son of Proetus
- Founding of **Mycenae**

CLAS203 Lecture 22 Notes

Athens:

- Preeminent in **Classical Period**
- Legendary history confused
- Additions made to myths in 6th and 5th c. BC as Athenian power grew
- Athenian claims about their origins
 - **Autochthonous** (means aboriginal, indigenous)
 - Descended from **Athene**
 - Descended from **Cecrops**, a mortal king
 - Golden age
 - Taught Athenians many things
- Daedalus and Icarus are Athenians (the mist of Crete)

The House of Erichthonius



Other Mythical Kings of Athens:

- **Erichthonius:** autochthonous
- **Pandion (1):** Philomela, Procne, Tereus, Itys
- **Erechtheus**
 - War with **Eleusis**
 - Son Cecrops (2)
- **Pandion (2):** King of Megara
 - **Creusa**
 - **Aegeus, Pallas** regain kingship of Athens
- **Aegeus**
- Sole king of Athens, but no son
- Brother Pallas: 50 sons
- The begetting of **Theseus** (Poseidon)
 - Oracle
 - **Pittheus** of Troezen, **Aethra**, **Poseidon**

Theseus' Quest for his Heritage:

- Coming to manhood of **Theseus:** tokens of recognition

Theseus' exploits on the road to Athens:

- **Epidaurus: *Periphetes** (son of Hephaestus) 'Clubber'
- **Isthmus of Corinth: Sinis** (son of Poseidon) 'Pinebender'
- **Crommyon: *Crommyonian Sow** (giant pig)
- **Megara: Sciron** (kick people off the cliff to be fed to a giant turtle by telling them to wash their feet)
- **Eleusis: * Cercyon** (a wrestler who is son of Gaia)
- **Near Athens: Procrustes** (innkeeper who hates his guests and would stretch or chop off his guests)
- *imitation of Heracles' athloi*
- Obstacles in Athens:
 - **Bull of Marathon**
 - **Medea (Medus:Medes)**
 - 50 sons of **Pallas**

CLAS203 Lecture 23 Notes

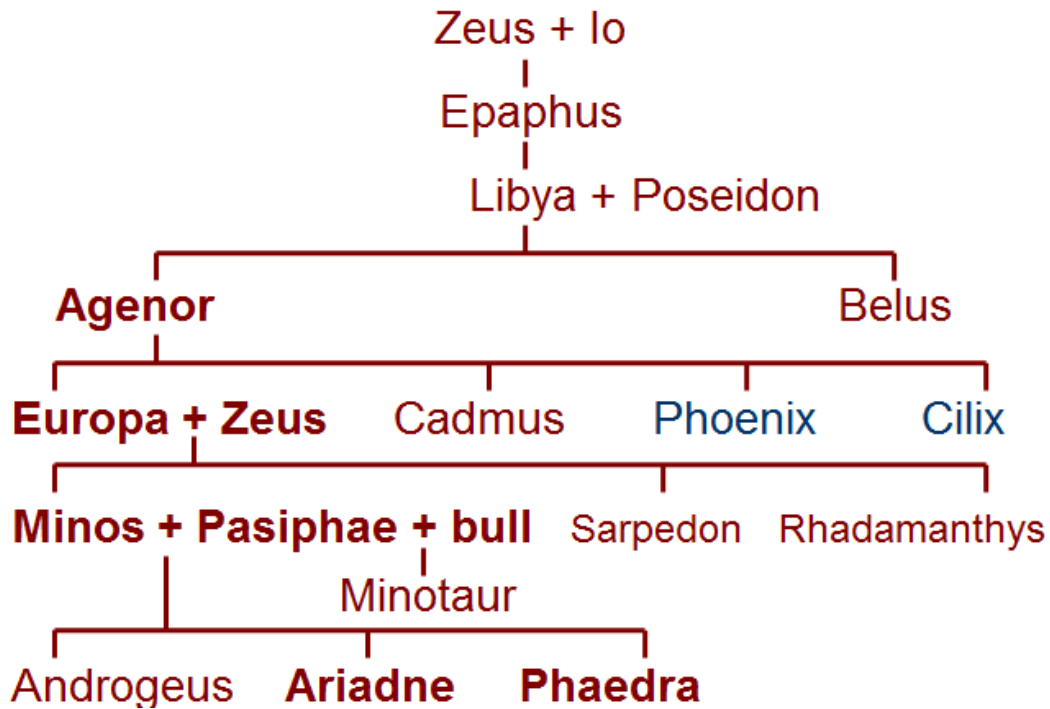
Theseus:

- After Theseus slays the minotaur, he returns to find out that his father is dead
- Theseus also slays the 50 sons of Pallas
- **Antiope** (queen of Amazon, and will be mother of Hippolotus) and **Amazonomachy**
- Theseus and Pirithous
 - **Helen of Sparta**
 - Katabasis
- Return to Athens and exile
- Death: **Scyros** (island) – the king of the island throws him off the cliff because he was scared Theseus would try to take power away from him

Crete (*History will not be tested*):

- Great thalassocracy, powerful kings, enormous palaces
- Religious artifacts: images of bulls, goddesses (fertility)
- No Cretan history, only Cretan archaeology
- No original Cretan myths, only Greek myths about Crete
- Greek myth: evil king overthrown by wandering hero who wins love of princess
- Palaces: maze; bull: half human monster

Descendants of Io



Europa and the Bull:

- The line of **Io**: **Epaphus** in Egypt
- **Libya** and **Poseidon**
- **Agenor** and **Belus**
- **Europa**, **Cadmus**, **Phoenix**, **Cilix**
- The abduction of **Europa** by **Zeus**: **Crete**
- **Minos** (claims kingship of Crete because a bull came out of the sea), **Rhadamanthys**, **Sarpedon**

Minos and Pasiphae:

- **Minos** drives out brothers
- Claims kingship: Poseidon's promise
- Omen: **Bull from the sea**
- Marries **Pasiphae**, daughter of Helios
- Poseidon angered
- Pasiphae's passion for bull; **Daedalus** (skilled and inventive Athenian craftsman who was in exile in Crete for killing his nephew, **Perdrix**)
- Birth of the **Minotaur**; Mino has Daedalus build a **Labyrinth**, to hide the Minotaur

Minos and Aegeus:

- Death of Minos' son **Androgeus** at **Athens**
- Siege of Athens where Androgeus is killed
- Yearly tribute of 7 youths and 7 maidens
- **Theseus**: joins tribute ship: The 'changing of the sails'
- **Theseus** and **Amphitrite** (Poseidon's wife gives Theseus a wreath)

Theseus and the Minotaur:

- **Ariadne**: motif of '**helper maiden**'
- Ball of thread (Hephaestus), sword
- They slaying of the **Minotaur**
- **Ariadne** abandoned on **Naxos** (important island)
- **Theseus'** return and
- Death of **Aegeus**

Daedalus and Icarus:

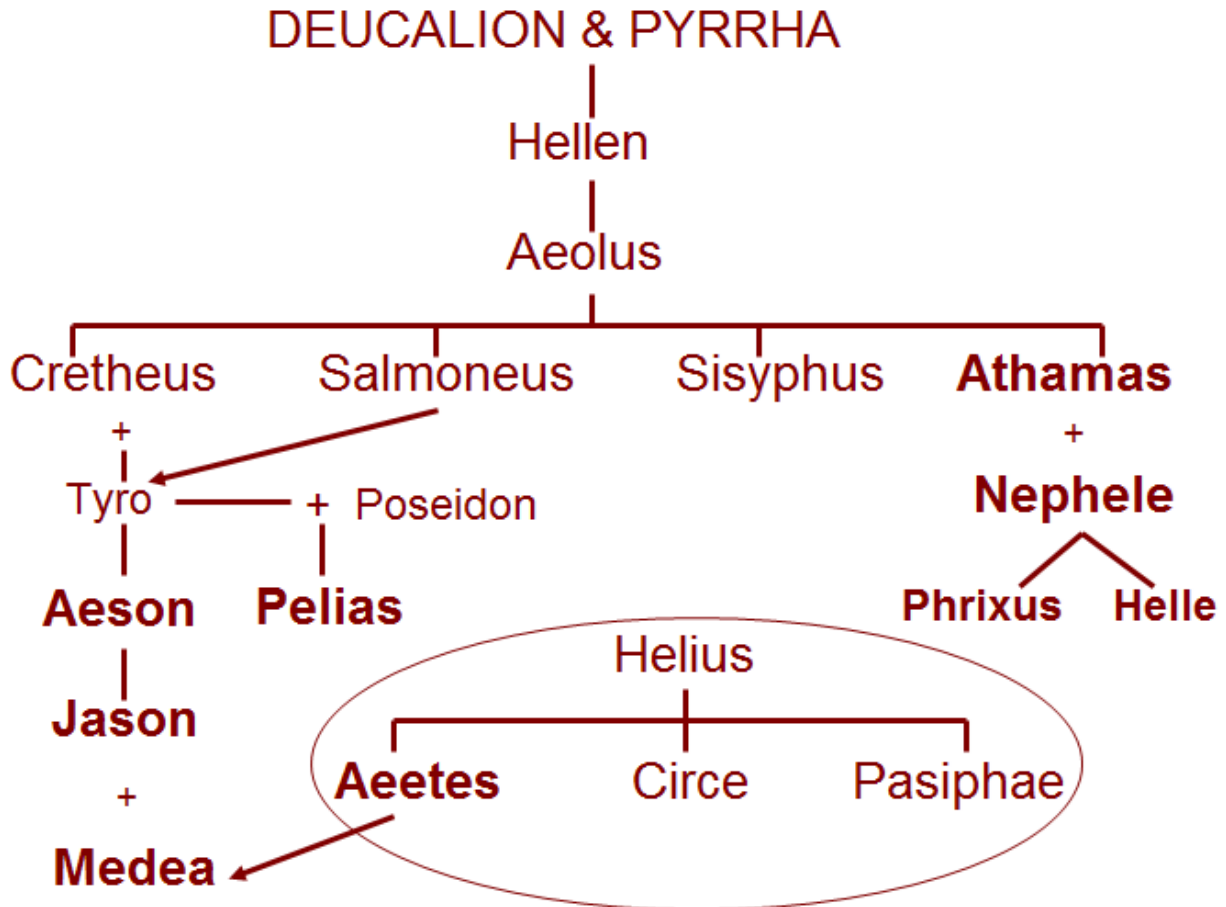
- **Minos** imprisons **Daedalus** and **Icarus** (son of Daedalus)
- **Daedalus** fashion wings
- Warning of **Icarus**: the "Golden Mean" – meaning not too much (high – wax melting) and not too little (low – water drenching wings)
- **Icarus'** fatal flight
- **Daedalus** flies to **King Cocalus of Sicily**

Death of Minos:

- **Minos** seeks **Daedalus**
- The threading of the conch shell
- Death at King Cocalus' daughters' hands

CLAS203 Lecture 24 Notes

Jason and the Myths of Iolcus:



The Golden Fleece:

- **Athamas and Nephele** (King and queen of **Boeotia**)
 - **Phrixus, Helle**
 - Ino
 - **Hellespont, Colchis (Black Sea)**
 - **Aetes** (king of Colchis)
 - The Golden Fleece

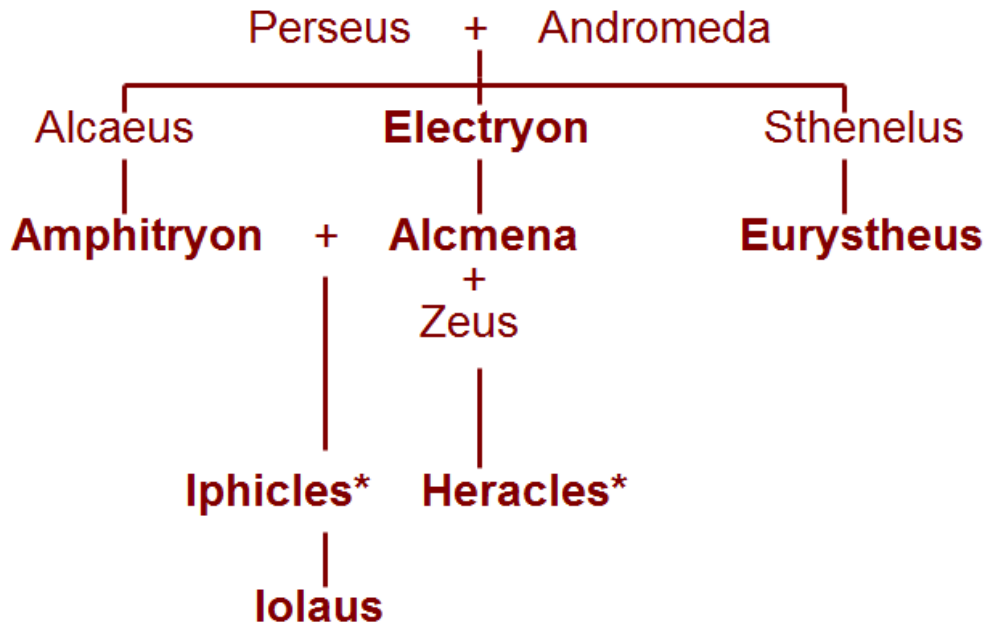
Jason and Pelias:

- Cretheus (king of **Iolcus**)
 - **Pelias (Poseidon) vs. Aeson**
 - **Jason, Chiron**
 - Oracle
 - Quest of the **Golden Fleece**

- **Argo (Argus): Argonauts** (sailors of the Argo ship) - *Do not need to know all the Argonauts*
 - Orpheus, Dioscuri (Castor, Polydeuces)
 - Telamon (Ajax), Peleus (Achilles)
 - Augeas, Admetus
 - Heracles
 - **Lemnos** (*Forge of Hephaestus*): Hipsipyle
 - Women on Lemnos insulted Aphrodite; thus she causes all the women on Lemnos to have body odor, resulting in the women killing all the men
 - Loss of Heracles (Hylas)
 - **Harpies** (King Phineus): Zetes and Calais
 - **Symplegades** (the 'Clashing Rocks')
- **Colchis: Aeetes, Medea**
 - Yoking of the bulls
 - Sowing field with dragon's teeth
 - Stealing the Golden Fleece
 - Flight from Colchis (**Apsyrtus**)
- Return to **Iolcus**
 - Many adventures on the way back
 - The death of **Pelias**
 - Exile
- **Corinth**
 - **Creon, Glauce**
 - Medea's revenge (**Euripides' Medea**)
 - Flight to Athens
 - Death of Jason

Heracles:

The descendants of Perseus



- Alcaeus, **Electryon** and Sthenelus are the three brothers, son of Perseus and Andromeda
- **Electryon** is the king of Mycenae
- Sthenelus is the king of Tiryns
- **Amphitryon and Alcmena** married on the condition that he took revenge on the people who raided **Electryon's** cattle. They also go in exile to Thebes because Amphitryon accidentally kill Electryon
- **Alcmena and Zeus** has **Heracles** while **Alcmena and Amphitryon** has **Iphicles**
- **Iphicles and Heracles** are twins who liked each other
- **Heracles** killed his music teacher, and was sent to complete 12 labours for Euristius while in exile to be purified

The Labours of Heracles:

- Type of deeds
 - 'athlos/athlon' ('athloi')
 - 'labours'
 - 'parergon' ('parerga')
 - 'side-deeds'
 - 'praxis' ('praxeis')

- 'military exploit'
- Local labours
 - **Nemean Lion** (child of Typhoeus) (**Nemea**): club, lionskin
 - **Lernaean Hydra (Lerna)**: Iolaus; poison
 - **Ceryneian Deer (Ceryneia)**: Artemis
 - **Erymanthian Boar (Mt. Erymanthus)**
 - Parergon: **Pholus, Chiron**
 - **Augean Stables (Elis)**: Augeas
 - Founding of **Olympic Games**
 - **Stymphalian Birds (Stymphalis)**
- Labours outside of Greece
 - **Cretan Bull (Crete): Minos, Pasiphae**
 - **Daedalus, Icarus**; Marathon, Theseus
 - **Horses of Diomedes (Thrace)**: Abderus (friend of Heracles, dies by the horses)
 - Parergon: **Alcestis, Admetus, Pherae**
 - **Girdle of Hippolyta (Amazons)**: far east
 - Parergon: **Troy, Laomedon**
 - **Cattle of Geryon**: (west of Spain) parerga
 - **Pillars of Heracles (Gibraltar)**
 - **Ligurians (France)**
 - **Cacus (Italy)**
 - **Eryx (Sicily)**
 - **Alcyoneus (Isthmus of Corinth)**
 - **Golden Apples of the Hesperides**: (north of Danube)
 - Nereus (old man of the sea), Daughters of Nyx (Hesperides), Ladon, **Atlas**
 - **Conquest of death**
 - Parerga
 - **Antaeus** (son of Gaia who grows stronger everytime he's on the ground. Heracles lifts him off the ground and strangles him)
 - **Prometheus**
 - **Cerberus (Hades)**
 - **Conquest of death**
 - **Katabasis**
- **Eurytus, Iole, Iphitus**
 - **Omphale**, Queen of Lydia – Heracles must serve her because he killed another person
- Marriage to **Deianira**
 - **Nessus** (centaur – tries to run away with Nessus and rape her; Heracles shoots the centaur with a poisoned arrow)
- **'Dead hand'** motif
 - Death: **Philoctetes** (young farmer – sets the Pyron fire as tribute of Heracles; receives bow of Heracles)
 - **Apotheosis**

- **Heraclidae:** conquest of the Peloponnesus
 - Death of **Eurystheus**
 - Identification with **Dorians**

Heracles Interpreted: a figure of contrasts:

- A figure of excess
- Laughable/fearsome
- Savage/civilizing force
- Divine/human
- Hero/villain
- Male defeated by female (divine and mortal)
- Exemplifies human condition