

Lec 1 - Intro and origin of Greek Myths 0108

27-January-18 5:26 PM

- **Expectations for the exam**

- Memorize (Mnemosyne, which means to remember with meaning)

Names	<u>GREEK, Hellenized / Latinized names</u> ΗΡΑΚΛΗΣ , HERAKLES/HERCULES
Myths	Plots and Variations

- Analyze and interpret Myths
 - Get familiar with the primary and ancient sources

- **Primary sources of greek mythology**

- Written
 - Ancient texts
 - *Iliad*(Homer), *Odyssey*(Homer), *Theogony*(Hesiod), *Works and Days*(Hesiod), *Homeric Hymns*(Homer), *Tragedies* (), *Metamorphoses*(Ovid)
- Art
 - Visual imagery
 - Pots
 - ◆ Shaped according to function.
 - ◆ **Black** and **Red figure**
 - Sculptures (free standing or on temples)
 - ◆ Myth Narration on temples
 - ◇ Eg. On the West side of the Parthenon temple in Athens
 - Coins
 - Rings
- The context of myth telling
 - Private
 - At home - family time
 - At the Barber and meeting/eating places
 - At private parties - Symposia(conference or meeting to discuss a particular subject)
 - Public Performances
 - Epic Poetry
 - Choral Poetry
 - Drama

	Epic poetry	Choral Poetry	Drama
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lengthy, narrative poems • About the deeds of Gods and Heroes • Recited by professional bards, to the accompaniment of musical instruments • Told at public events, i.e. festivals or king's court • Eg Wall painting from the Mycenaean palace of Pylos - Shows a bard with a lyre, and a bird. Birds were a symbol of beautiful sound 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At festivals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tragedies • Comedies • Satyr Drama
• Examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homer (ca 750 bc) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Iliad ○ Odyssey 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eg Pindar's praise of victorious athletes 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Homeric Hymns a collection of 33 poems dedicated to individual gods and goddesses • Hesiod (ca 700 bs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Theogony ○ Works and Days 		
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Time periods of greek mythology

- Classical Age: 480 - 323 BC
 - Told thru myths and dramatic performances
 - The myths were the source for the dramatic plot
 - The dramatic performances were means to express political and philosophical views to the audiences
 - Eg Actors from a satyr drama have satry masks
 - Playwrights
 - Tragic
 - Aeschylus
 - Sophocles
 - Euripides
 - Comic
 - Aristophanes
- Greek myths are based off of the land, and the land's culture

Geography of Greece

- Has regions along coast line
- Sea - islands
- Mountains
- Valleys
- CLIMATE
 - Hot/dry summers
 - Mild, rainy winters
- Limited agricultural and land resources
- They were crafty due to this
 - Olives
 - Vines
 - Cereal
- Earth to make clay for art
- Due to the characteristics of the Greek land, lots of independent communities: small scale farmers
- Must seafaring to explore for resources, trade, communicate, and migrate

Common identity

- Language
 - Different dialects but could still understand each other
- NOT united politically
- LOTS of small communities
- Culture = love to speak
- Religion
 - Based on the "twelve" olympian gods and goddesses, and the worship of heroes
- Festivals
 - Eg Olympic Games at Olympia, Choral songs

- Homeric epics
 - Share stories and rituals
- Name (of
 - "hellenes" = ancient greeks