



## COURSE DATA

### DATA SUBJECT

**Code:** 35468

**Name:** Greco-Roman religion and mythology

**Cycle:** Undergraduate Studies

**ECTS Credits:** 6

**Academic year:** 2025-26

### STUDY (S)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
1013 - Degree in Classical Philology	Facultat de Filologia, Traducció i Comunicació	1	Second quarter

### SUBJECT-MATTER

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1013 - Degree in Classical Philology	Origen, Formación y Pervivencia de las Lenguas y Culturas Clásicas	COMPULSORY

### COORDINATION

PEREZ LAMBAS FERNANDO

## SUMMARY

The subject consists of a short synthesis of the main features and trends of the religion and mythology of the ancient Greece and Rome, where special attention will be paid to those aspects that characterize them regarding other religious systems.

This subject is taught in first year, it is mandatory, and it is included in the general subject Origins, development, and legacy of the classical languages.

This course helps develop elements related to several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Quality Education (SDG 4), Gender Equality (SDG 5), the promotion of Just, Peaceful and Inclusive Societies (SDG 16), the reduction of inequalities (SDG 10), and the protection of cultural heritage, promotion of linguistic and cultural diversity, and intercultural dialogue (in connection with SDG 17), as these themes are reflected in Greco-Roman language, culture, and literature.

## PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

### RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE



There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

## OTHER REQUIREMENTS

A basic understanding of classical Greek and Roman literature and culture will be highly recommended for students to fully benefit from theoretical classes.

## COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

### 1013 - Degree in Classical Philology

Acquire the ability to identify research issues and themes and to evaluate their relevance in the area of study of classical philology

Acquire the ability to interrelate the different aspects of philology.

Acquire the ability to locate, synthesise and manage bibliographic information and computer tools in the area of study of classical philology.

Adapt to different work environments in the field of language studies.

Apply information and communication technologies and computer tools to language studies.

Apply quality criteria in philological work.

Be able to work and learn autonomously and to plan and manage work time.

Be familiar with the diachronic configuration and the synchronous functioning of the Greek languages.

Be familiar with the diachronic configuration and the synchronous functioning of the Latin language.

Design and manage philological projects in the academic or professional area.

Develop skills to undertake further specialisation or research studies.

Develop the capacity for critical comprehension of Greek and Latin texts at their different linguistic, literary, philological, historical, social and cultural levels.

Gain theoretical and practical knowledge of the linguistic techniques and methods applied to the Greek language.

Gain theoretical and practical knowledge of the linguistic techniques and methods applied to the Latin language.

Have the ability to communicate orally and in writing in the native languages.

Know and apply the currents and methodologies of linguistics.

Know Greek history and culture.



Know Latin history and culture.

Know the techniques of analysis of literary texts and their application.

Show ethical commitment in the field of language studies as regards gender equality, equal opportunities, the values of the culture of peace and democratic values and environmental and sustainability issues, and have an understanding and appreciation of linguistic diversity and multiculturalism.

Students must be able to apply their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional manner and have acquired the competences required for the preparation and defence of arguments and for problem solving in their field of study.

Students must be able to communicate information, ideas, problems and solutions to both expert and lay audiences.

Students must have acquired knowledge and understanding in a specific field of study, on the basis of general secondary education and at a level that includes mainly knowledge drawn from advanced textbooks, but also some cutting-edge knowledge in their field of study.

Students must have developed the learning skills needed to undertake further study with a high degree of autonomy.

Students must have the ability to gather and interpret relevant data (usually in their field of study) to make judgements that take relevant social, scientific or ethical issues into consideration.

Work as a team in the environment of language studies and develop interpersonal relations.

## DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

### 1. Religion and mythology in Greece

1. General characteristics of Greek religion.
  - a. Myth, cult, and ritual.
  - b. Sources for the study of mythology and religion.
  - c. Trends in interpretation.
2. Analysis of Greek myths.
  - a. Cosmogony and Theogony.
  - b. The Olympian gods and the chthonic gods.
  - c. The heroes. d. The main mythological cycles.
3. Worship and sanctuaries. Altar, temple, and priesthood.
4. Religion in the democratic polis.
  - a. Characteristics and main rituals.
  - b. Sacrifice and the myth of Prometheus.
  - c. Purification rituals: the pharmakos.
  - d. Hero cult and civic myths.
  - e. Panhellenic cults.
5. Worship and life: rites of passage.



- 6. Private worship and individual religion. Oracles and divination.
- 7. Mystery religions. Eleusis, Dionysian mysteries, and Orphism.
- 8. Festivals and the calendar.

## 2. Religion and mythology in Rome

- 1. General characteristics of Roman religion.
  - a. Myth, cult, and ritual.
  - b. Sources for the study of religion and mythology.
  - c. Philosophy and religious beliefs.
  - d. Society, politics, and religious practices.
- 2. Formation and development of Roman religion
  - a. Etruscan and Greek influences.
  - b. Institutions and priesthoods.
  - c. The Roman calendar.
  - d. Divination. Sacrifice, prodigies, and augury.
  - e. Magic, superstition, and curses.
  - f. Private worship and public cult.
  - g. Rites of passage and citizenship. Order and disorder.
- 3. Republic and genesis of imperial cult.
  - d. Eastern and salvation cults.
  - e. Imperial cult.
- 4. Resistance of Greco-Roman cults and the triumph of Christianity. Tradition and survival.

### These contents will be reflected in the following learning outcomes:

Acquisition of a methodological and diachronic approach to the linguistic, philological, literary, and historical elements that constitute Greco-Roman culture and thought, taking into account their origin, formation, development, and subsequent survival and reception in the cultures that inherited the classical world.

Consolidation and strengthening of linguistic knowledge applied to the analysis and understanding of Greek and Latin literary texts.

## WORKLOAD

### PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Theory	60,00
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>60,00</b>

### NON PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES



Activity	Hours
Attendance at other activities	0,00
Individual or group project	20,00
Independent study and work	60,00
Preparation of lessons	0,00
Preparation for assessment activities	10,00
Resolution of case studies	0,00
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>90,00</b>

## TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The students will receive information through presentations, texts, and articles presented in the virtual classroom. The sessions will focus on explaining, commenting on, and evaluating the material presented.

### Theoretical classes:

The aim of the theoretical classes is to familiarize students with the main interpretative theories and the concepts and terms specific to them. The application of the same inductive methodology will help advance the understanding of the contents.

### Practical classes:

The aim of these classes is to analyze relevant texts from Greco-Roman literature or epigraphy, or, where applicable, modern analysis of religious phenomena, especially those set in antiquity.

## EVALUATION

The assessment will take into account the assimilated knowledge, assignments, and complementary activities. The course will be divided into 2 blocks: Greek religion and mythology block, and Latin religion and mythology block.

The assessment for the course will be as follows:

1. A **final written exam** divided into two parts (Greece and Rome): 4 points each part, totaling 8 points (80 %).
2. A **written assignment** on a topic from one of the two blocks: 2 points (20 %).

Each block, therefore, contributes 4 points to the final grade. To pass the course, a grade higher than 2 out of 4 is required in each block.



The second sitting will follow the same criteria as the first: final exam divided into two parts (Greece and Rome) (80%) + final assignment (20%). The grades of the exam parts the student has passed will be kept for the second sitting, in which the student will only need to retake the failed parts. The grade for the final assignment will also be kept if it has been passed; if it has been failed, a new assignment may be submitted.

Intellectual honesty is essential in academic communities, as it is for the right evaluation of the students' work as well. All the submitted work in this subject must have an original authorship. Works in which fraudulent collaboration other AI assistance (from ChatGPT or from other similar applications) has been used will be rejected, aside from their use being part of the requirements of the subject and having been authorised by the teachers on charge of it. In any case, their use always must be mentioned as a source.

The general system of marks will follow the current regulation of the Universitat de València, approved by the Government Council on May 30th., 2017. ACGUV 108/2017.

## REFERENCES

### Dictionaries:

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### Greece:

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BREMMER, J. *Greek Religion*, Oxford, 1994.

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DETIENNE, M. & VERNANT, J. P. *La cuisine du sacrifice en pays grec*, Paris, 1979.



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KIRK, G. S. *La naturaleza de los mitos griegos*, Barcelona, 1984.

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### Rome:

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RÜPKE, J. *Pantheon: A New History of Roman Religion*, Princeton University Press, 2018.

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