

## Syllabus: Mythology II: Heroes and Epics

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All reading assignments are from Edith Hamilton's *Mythology*. Small paperback edition numbers first, more recent, larger paperback edition numbers in parentheses.

Weekly assignments may be more flexible than the syllabus suggests, based on how much material we cover/discuss in each individual session.

April 3: Week I: Sept. 17: Background discussion: The Hero and the Quest. Reading: The Quest of the Golden Fleece: pp. 117-130 (160-180) and Perseus: pp. 141-148 (196-207).

April 10: Week II: Sept. 24: Atalanta: pp. 173-77 (245-52) Theseus: pp. 149-158 (208-223) and Hercules: pp. 159-172 (224-44).

April 17: Week III: Oct. 8: The Trojan War and the Fall of Troy: pp. 178-201 (253-290).

April 24: Week IV: Oct. 15: The Odyssey: pp. 202-219 (291-319).

May 1: Week V: Oct. 22: The House of Atreus: pp. 236-253 (345-372).

May 8: Week VI: Oct. 29: The Royal House of Thebes: pp. 254-267 (373-393); the Royal House of Athens: pp. 268-77 (394-408).

May 15: Week VII: Nov. 5: Brief discussion of Roman Myth/Religion. The Aeneid: pp.220-235 (320-344).

May 22: Week VIII: Nov.12: "Catch-up" or "completion" day if needed. Possible mythology movie, if time.

Note: Although this is a "stand alone" course with no prerequisite, it may be useful for the participants to have knowledge of prior material that has been covered in the course immediately prior to this one (Mythology I: Gods and Goddesses), especially the roles and powers of the gods and goddesses (numbers 1 and 2 below).

With that said, here are the chapters from Hamilton's *Mythology* that were covered in Part I: 1. The Gods, pp. 24-46 (17-50); 2. Gods of Earth, pp. 47-62 (51-75); 3. Creation: pp. 63-74 (76-94); 4. Earliest Heroes, pp. 75-91 (95-120); 5. Lovers: pp. 92-116 (121-159); 6. 4 Great Adventures pp. 131-47 (181-195). 7. Brief/Less Important Myths, pp. 278-99 (410-441).