Nanyang Technological University  
Division of English  
HL 2040 Adapting Greek Mythology  
Course Blog: TBA  
AY 2020–2021, SEM 2

Associate Professor Jane Wong  
Office: HSS 03-58; Office Hours: TBA  
Email: yc.wong@ntu.edu.sg

Course Description
Ancient stories from classical literature have inspired many later authors to reconsider and revisit the power of the mythological narrative. Through selected readings of classical works and a careful examination of their adaptations, this course will examine how themes in the classical literary tradition are used in a variety of adaptations that respond to different historical and cultural contexts. We will examine the use of language and imagery in adaptations of classical works. Students will be encouraged to explore the subject in depth and acquire a sense of contexts in terms of the intellectual landscapes that shape the study of literature and culture.

Learning Objective
This course aims to develop critical reading, writing and research skills through the study of classical literature and its adaptations. This course introduces literary devices used in classical narratives and encourages students to trace how these devices are still important in the analysis of modern literature. More broadly, figures and stories from classical literature will also be used as context to trace the foundations of the Western literary tradition; this also helps equip students with the necessary knowledge they will need when they encounter classical influences in literary works beyond those assigned in the course.

Important Notes
- Office consultation: If you would like to make an appointment for consultation outside of office hours, pls. email me at least 3 working days ahead of time. Please come prepared with questions so that we can address your concerns effectively and efficiently.

- Please observe punctuality in class, and if you have to leave early, pls. let me know ahead of time. As usual, pls. be respectful to your classmates and be sure to turn off all electronic devices during lectures and tutorials.

Use of course resources:
1) **All materials** distributed in class and on the course blog are meant to be used for class lectures and discussions only. They are not to be re-distributed outside of class for any other purposes. If you wish to use the materials for your assignments, you must cite them accordingly.
2) You are not allowed to record lectures in any form without permission from the instructors. If you have any special requests regarding this matter, you’re welcome discuss your concerns with me.

- If you are unable to attend class, it is your responsibility to check our course blog for updates or announcements that you may have missed.

- Late assignments: written assignments that are submitted late will receive a penalty of half a grade each day (including weekends and holidays); if I do not receive an assignment a week after it is due, you will receive a 0 for the essay.

- Absence in class: if you are absent on the day when an in-class writing assignment is due, you will not be able to make-up for this. Those who are absent for presentations will not have the opportunity to make-up their work in another group’s presentation.

- Any attempt at plagiarism will be subjected to university disciplinary action. Please familiarize yourself with the university’s academic integrity policies here: http://www.ntu.edu.sg/ai/Pages/academic-integrity-policy.aspx

Course Assessment

Presentations – 20%
Critical response paper – 20%
Final essay – 50%
Participation – 10%

Required Texts:

*You are required to use the edition translated by this translator. Pls. note that other editions by different translators are not acceptable—they will be entirely different from the ones used in this course.
# Tentative Course Outline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Week 1  
12 Jan. | Introduction: Greek Mythology and Adaptations |
| Week 2  
The War  
19 Jan. | Excerpts from Homer’s *Iliad*  
Books I-IV pp. 59-127 |
| Week 3  
The War  
26 Jan. | Excerpts from Homer’s *Iliad*  
Book XVIII-XX and Book XXII pp. 330-417; 435-449 |
| Week 4  
The War  
2 Feb. | *Excerpts from Homer’s Iliad*  
Book XIX-XX and Book XXII pp. 392-417; 435-449 |
| Week 5  
The War  
9 Feb. | Film (Troy) |
| Week 6  
The War  
16 Feb. | Pat Barker’s *Silence of the Girls*  
Ovid’s *Heroides and Amores* (under “E-Resources” on course blog) |
| Week 7  
Aftermath  
23 Feb. | Pat Barker’s *Silence of the Girls* |
| Week 8  
Aftermath  
9 Mar. | David Malouf’s *Ransom* |
| Week 9  
Aftermath  
16 Mar. | David Malouf’s *Ransom* |
| Week 10  
Aftermath  
23 Mar. | William Shakespeare’s *Troilus and Cressida* |
| Week 11  
Homecoming  
30 Mar. | Jean Racine’s *Andromaque* (under “E-Resources” on course blog) |
| Week 12  
Homecoming  
6 Apr. | Ted Hughes’ *Aeschylus’ Oresteia: Agamemnon* (under “E-Resources” on course blog) |
| Week 13  
Homecoming  
13 Apr. | Ellen McLaughlin’ *Iphigenia and Other Daughters* (under “E-Resources” on course blog) |