

**Greek and Roman Studies 381**  
**Greek and Roman Religion**  
**Winter 2012: T W F 1:30am – 2:20pm. ELL 062**

**Instructor:** Dr. Nick Reymond

**Email:** nreymond@uvic.ca

**Office:** CLE B427

**Office Hours:** Tuesday and Wednesday 3:00 – 4:00pm, or by appointment

**Texts:**

S. Price, *Religions of the ancient Greeks*, Cambridge, 1999

J. Scheid, *An introduction to Roman religion*, Indiana, 2003 (*La religion des Romains*, Paris, 1998, trans. J. Lloyd)

**Course Description:**

This course is an introduction to Greek and Roman religion. It will provide an overview of the current information and issues relating to religion as it was practiced in the ancient Mediterranean. It will also examine the worship of the gods and the ways in which the Greek and Romans interpreted and interacted with the supernatural world. A primary goal will be to examine the primary evidence for our understanding of ancient religion; this includes literary texts in translation, inscriptions and material evidence. In addition we shall explore various aspects of ancient religion, including calendars, festivals, rituals, sanctuaries, and cults

**Course Assessment:**

Mid-term – 25% (February 24)

Bibliographical Assignment – 5% (January 20)

Response Paper – 5% (February 10)

Essay – 30% (March 19)

Final exam – 35%

The midterm will take place in class, while the final will be written during the exam period in April. You will be given specific instructions for the essay and I have supplied a selection of topics on Moodle. I am, however, always open to individual topics provided that you clear the idea with me. A plagiarism detection service (<http://turnitin.com/>) will be used to assess the originality of essays. Plagiarism is a serious offence. I have a **ZERO-TOLERANCE** policy and plagiarism will be severely penalized. Please consult the University guidelines concerning plagiarism on the UVic Calendar pp. 33-34 (<http://web.uvic.ca/calendar2009/FACS/UnIn/UARe/PoAcI.html>) or consult with me before you submit the essay.

**Grading Scale:**

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point	Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point
95-100	A+	9	70-74	B-	4
90-94	A	8	65-69	C+	3
85-89	A-	7	60-64	C	2
80-84	B+	6	50-59	D	1
75-79	B	5	< 50	F	0

The day of the mid-term will not change and an absence will result in a score of 0, except in the case of illness, family affliction, etc. All students are required to have a University of Victoria Netlink ID to enable them to use Moodle, since extra class materials and supplementary readings will be posted there.

<b>Week</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics and Readings</b>
1	January	4-6	General Introduction
2		9-13	Introduction to Greek and Roman religion Read: Price p. 1-10
3		16-20	Gods and myths Read: Price p. 11-25
<b>Bibliographical Assignment due</b>	January	20	<b>In class</b>
4		23-27	Festivals and sacrifice Read: Price p. 25-46
5	January-February	30-3	Religious locations Read: Price p. 47-66
6	February	6-10	Gender Read: Price p. 89-107
<b>Response Paper due</b>	February	10	<b>In class</b>
<b>Reading Break</b>		13-17	<b>No Classes</b>
7		20-24	Mystery cults Read: Price p. 108-125
<b>Midterm</b>	February	<b>Fri. 24</b>	<b>In class</b>
8	February-March	27-2	Introduction to Roman religion Read: Scheid p. 1-29
9	March	5-9	Rituals and calendars Read: Scheid p. 30-38, 41-49
10		12-16	Temples and sanctuaries Read: Scheid p. 60-76
11		19-23	Sacrifice and religious authorities Read: Scheid p. 79-146
<b>Essay due</b>	March	<b>Mon. 19</b>	<b>Due by 5pm</b>
12	March	26-30	Interpretations Read: Scheid p. 173-191
13	April	2-5	Death, the Afterlife, and Necromancy Read: tba