

Ancient Greek and Roman Myths in Everyday Life

As a mythology project, instead of bringing materials to class, assign the students to make collections. The teacher makes a list of areas, similar to the following in which allusions to Ancient Greek and Roman mythology might be found:

- Advertising and business
- Science and medicine (see Module 7 for astronomy)
- Literary references in books and articles
- Architecture and art (see Module 2)
- Entertainment
 - Television
 - Movies
 - Sports
 - Games
 - Music (see Module 6)

Depending on the number of students in the class, the categories could be combined or divided further. (In a larger class, the students could work in groups.) Require each student to e-mail his or her top three choices to the teacher. Assignments by e-mail are made on a first-come/first-served basis. The teacher then sends the students a list of students, their e-mail addresses, and their topics. If a student finds a reference to mythology in another student's category, he or she informs the student via e-mail. The student receiving the e-mail message acknowledges the arrival of the e-mail message. The student writes a commentary for each reference to Ancient Greek and Roman mythology in his or her collection. The commentary should include the following:

- The mythical reference
- A description or copy of the source of the mythical reference with the date on which it was found
- An explanation of the mythological reference that makes mention of the primary source or sources of the myth
- Comments on the appropriateness of the reference (e.g., Why or why not is Pegasus a good symbol for Mobil Oil?)
- Acknowledgement of finder of reference other than him- or herself if that person is another student in the class with date of receipt of e-mail

Towards the end of the course, each student gives an oral presentation of his or her findings. In doing so, some students may wish to make a *PowerPoint* presentation; others may wish to use a document camera and a screen. If a student is technologically adept and owns the software *Dazzle*, he or she may wish to show clips from videos.