

### SC03 Greek and Roman mythology and religion

(LECTURE-ONLY or with ADDITIONAL OPTIONAL SEMINARS)

*There are a limited number of places available on the lecture only course*

*The seminars will run subject to sufficient numbers enrolling – there will be a limited number of places available.*

**Lecture only module:** What is myth? How do myths deal with fundamental human concerns about who we are and the world we live in? What is the relationship between myth and religion? Why did the Greeks and Romans worship many gods, believe in oracles, or perform animal sacrifice? This lecture-only module is an introduction to the major myths and religions of the classical world using the full range of primary source material: literary, artistic and archaeological. It explores the functions of myth within society and the various theories of myth. The first half of the course will focus on themes such as the creation of myths in the wider context of Near Eastern mythology, the character of the Olympian gods, heroes and their monstrous opponents, divine-human relations, and the major mythic cycles of the Trojan war, and the Atreus and Theban sagas. The second half of the course will explore the nature of Greek and Roman religion in its social context. It considers key elements of ritual action: sacrifice, rites of passage, festivals, as well as the diverse ancient beliefs on death and the afterlife and the role of mystery religions. This lecture-only course will be illustrated.

**Lecturers:** Dr Sue O'Neill and Dr Nicolette Pavlides

**Fee:** €150 for the full year or €85 per term.

**Concession** €75 for the course or €45 per term

**Start Date:** **Tuesday 26 Sept 2017/16 Jan 2018**

**Lectures per week:** 1

**Time and venue:** Tuesdays 12 o'clock **Davis Theatre**

**Duration:** Two twelve-week terms with a one week break in each term (6-10 November 2017& 26 February – 2 March 2018)

**OPTIONAL SEMINARS:** The optional seminars will comprise **two** 2.5 hour seminars per term. Taking place on Saturday mornings, the seminars will last 2.5 hours and will offer an opportunity for small group discussion of key themes in ancient mythology and religion. Materials for discussion will be provided ahead of the meetings. Light refreshments are included in the fee for this option.

**Teachers:** Dr Christine Morris and Dr Sue O'Neill

**ADDITIONAL SEMINAR OPTION:** (€90 (€45 concession) for two terms, or €60 (€30 concession) per term)

**TOTAL FEE FOR BOTH LECTURE AND OPTIONAL SEMINARS:**

€240 for the full year or €130 per term. Concession €135 for the full year or €75 per term