

## Mythology PowerPoint Projects:

Time is of the essence in completing these projects, so much of your research will need to be completed outside of class. While it is possible to make these projects awesome in terms of PowerPoint capabilities, the purpose is to communicate key mythological concepts to the class. Therefore, make your presentations attractive, but mythological content is more important than PowerPoint pizzazz.

The following are the key guidelines for this project.

1. Follow the content descriptions on the back of this sheet exactly because this is the information needed for our study of literature this semester.
2. Research your topics using both your textbook, the Internet resources I have provided for you, and the resource books from the library.
3. Be sure to keep a list of all the resources your group uses and include an MLA-formatted Works Cited as the last slide of your PowerPoint. **Each person should draw his/her information from multiple sources, the more, the better.**
4. Do NOT cut and paste information from websites into your PowerPoint. This is plagiarism. Instead, paraphrase and summarize the information, putting in key words and phrases, and then you can expand on the information in your oral presentation (which you will paraphrase from your sources, NOT READ from your sources—that's oral plagiarism, still a no-no). Include parenthetical citations within the text of your slides. Remember that what is cited parenthetically MUST MATCH what is listed in the Works Cited!
5. Use clip art and/or illustrations from your web sites to enhance your slides. Be sure to site the source of the graphic underneath it on your slide. Illustrations do NOT need to be included in the Works Cited, however. Failure to site sources is plagiarism.
6. Spell check your PowerPoint. Make sure you know how to pronounce the names of people and places in your slideshow before you begin your presentation. Many of the books have pronunciation guides or you can ask Mrs. Jones.
7. Make sure your slides are easy to read from a distance. Don't try to put too much info on one slide. As a rule of thumb, no more than 30-35 words per slide.
8. Each person needs a presentation at least **3 minutes in length**.
9. Identify which members of the group will present different parts of the slideshow. Remember, whoever speaks first should start with an introduction, not "We did...." Similarly, whoever concludes should not end with "We're done..., or that's it...."
10. All students will be expected to write a five-paragraph essay based on the presentations. More info about this will come in a few days.

Computer rules...and attendance too:

1. Do not use Safari as a browser. Use FIREFOX ONLY!!!!!!! Safari locks up the printer.
2. Each group should create their presentation on Google docs, using Presentation. You can then work on the document individually from home as well.
3. Students who fail to stay on task, fail. Surfing the Internet, chatting, visiting game pages, etc. are not acceptable ways to utilize class time. I expect quality presentations based upon quality behavior. When tempted to do otherwise, please read the first sentence of this instruction.
4. When all projects are done, be sure to back up your presentation on someone's jump drive, for the "just in case" factor. If group members are absent the day of presentation, others in the group will be expected to cover for them. Those who are absent will not receive an A on this assignment, unless their absence is an official school-related activity absence, and they will need to come in before or after school to present and earn their individual credit.

## Mythology PowerPoint Presentations

**Directions:** All of the following information is required. As a group, or individually, you may add more information that you feel will enhance your presentation and add to your classmates' knowledge. You may also go beyond just a PowerPoint presentation and add creative elements. If you want to do something special, get approval from me first, but I'm always open and receptive to really cool ideas.

1. Creation of the Universe: You may all work together or you may subdivide the work, which is more efficient use of time. Include the following information in some form:
  1. An explanation of Chaos
  2. The marriage of Uranus and Gaea
  3. Their three sets of children—The Titans (name and describe them), the Cyclops, and the monsters
  4. The civil war the Titans fought, and the rise to power of Zeus and the Olympians (who lived on Mt. Olympus — What is it? Where is it? What is it like?)
2. Comparative mythology — Creation Myths or other myths that share a common story line (For either a group or individuals)

Using the book, Mythic Voices, or Internet sources tell the story of other groups' and religions' creation stories and compare them to parallel stories in Greco-Roman mythology. If working as an individual, select one story and compare it to the creation of the Universe or other Greek myth as told in Mythology.
3. The Underworld

Find or create a map of the underworld, sometimes called Hades. The Greek Mythology Link on the Internet is an excellent source in addition to your textbook. Identify and name on the map the following:

  1. Underworld's origin on earth
  2. Its two regions
  3. All the rivers which surround and are part of it
  4. The Underworld's inhabitants. Include the God of the Underworld, Charon, Cerberus, the Furies. Include any others which you find to be of interest. Attach brief biographies of these characters.
  5. Be prepared to explain fully your map and all of the items you place on it to the class.
4. The Principal Gods and Goddesses

Identify all the principal gods and goddesses and include the following information. — See appendix in Edith Hamilton's Mythology

  1. Show their relationships one to another
  2. Indicate what each is god or goddess of.
  3. Include both Greek and Roman names. Tell which is which.
  4. Personality traits of each god/goddess
  5. Have each member of the group select ONE of the gods or goddesses and find one myth in which that god or goddess plays a part. Then recount the myth.
5. The Heroes and Monsters

Identify two or three of the major heroes of mythology and some of the monsters they faced. Then communicate their stories to the class and include the following information:

  1. Whether the hero is Greek or Roman.
  2. Origins of the hero. Is the hero descended from a god/goddess? Who? How?
  3. Special talents skills the hero possesses.
  4. Did the hero ever anger the god/goddesses? How? Why? Result?
  5. What story is most commonly associated with the hero.
6. The Nature Myths

Many of the myths explain some phenomena of Nature. Research some of the myths (at a minimum 3); for example, explain how fire came to be, why we have seasons, why we have disease and despair, etc. Communicate these stories to the class. (Hint: see Pandora, Persephone, Demeter, Prometheus, Epimetheus, Helios.)