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# Profan Iconography

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This course covers the topic of secular iconography in the visual arts from the classical antiquity to the 20th century. Attention will be paid to classical mythology, allegories, personifications, basics of emblematics, intermingling of secular and sacred iconography at selected works of art.

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## Syllabus

### Profan Iconography 1

- Introduction to profane iconography and mythology: literature and sources
- The principal gods of Olympus: Olympus, Jupiter (loves of Zeus: Danae, Semele, Io, Leda, Europa), Juno, Apollo, Bacchus and Ariadne, Ceres, Diana, Mars, Mercury, Minerva, Neptune, Pluto, Venus, Vulcan, Gaia
- Hercules and his stories
- Hesiodos and themes related to time: personification of time (Chronos, Saturn), ages of mankind, seasons, months, phases of the day
- Time: human age, life, death. Space: chaos, vertebrae, moon, earth, continents, four elements, winds, rivers, human temperaments, senses
- Ancient Greek epic: Argonauts, Jason, journey to Colchis, golden fleece, Medea; Theban cycle: Oedipus, Seven against Thebes, Antigone
- Homer, Ilias; Trojan cycle: the Hesperides, Helen, Peleus and Thetis, Paris, the trial of Paridus, Héb , Achilles, the Trojan Horse, the Trojan War, Hector, Philoctetes, Laocoon, the Sacrifice of Polyxena, etc.
- Homer, Odyssey: Odysseus, Calypso, Kirke, Penelope, Polyphemus, Sirens, etc.
- Vergil, Aeneas

### Course completion requirements

- Attendance 80%
- Exam - final (multiple choice) test
- [Further information](#) in Study Informational System

### Profan Iconography 2

- Characters from the history of ancient Rome, Virgil, Titus Livius: Cato, Caesar, Kimon and Pero, Cleopatra, Cornelia, Decius Mus, Lucretia, Marcus Curtius, Mucius Scevola, Horatius, Romulus and Remus, Sabines, Scipio, Seneca, Sophonisba, Virginia, Zenobia.
- Figures from the history of ancient Greece: Alexander the Great, Apelles, Archimedes, Aristotle, Diogenes, Heracleitos and Democritus, Socrates, Milon.
- Ovid: Metamorphoses
- Music: Apollo, Orpheus, Muses, musical instruments, arts, sciences.
- Cupid, Heavenly and Earthly Love, Cupid and Psyche
- Dante Alighieri, Ludovico Ariosto, Giovanni Battista Marino, Pastor Fido, Torquato Tasso
- Iconology and Emblematics: Ripa, Iconology, Vincenzo Cartari, Piero Valeriano, Hieroglyphica, Natale Conti, Andrea Alciati

### Course completion requirements

- Successful completion of the final test
- Subject is concluded by written test in which photos of selected artworks according to the syllabus will be shown
- [Further information](#) in Study Informational System