

Diana Doyle

## Teaching Mythology: Gods and Heroes. Curriculum Unit 83.02.06

USA (1983)

TAGS: [Achilles](#) [Olympian gods](#) [Hercules](#) [Epimetheus](#) [Daedalus and Icarus](#) [Titans](#)



| General information           |   |
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## Creators

### Diana Doyle

Diana Doyle is part of a group of seventy-nine teachers from New Haven, who organised seminars on topics related to curriculum developments between March and August 1983, including one on The seminar entitled "Greek and Roman Mythology", led by William G. Thalmann, Associate Professor of Classics from USC.

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### Additional information

#### Contents & Purpose

This unit aims to enhance students' reading and writing skills and encourage their curiosity by teaching them adapted myths, especially on Greek heroes. The myths suggested in this unit are: the creation myth with comparison with other cultures' creation stories (Babylonian, Apache, and Nigerian), Titanomachy, Olympian gods, creation of humans, Gift of fire, flood, Pandora, Hercules, Orpheus, Daedalus, Odysseus and Achilles form the heroes' myths part. The activities include creating family trees for the gods, reads myth about a certain god/goddess and present the deity to the class, writing on their personal 'meeting' with one of the gods.

The students and teacher discuss various elements of the gods' myths as well as the characteristics of hero myths. The students also receive writing assignments, such as writing essays on heroes.

The unit offers three samples of lesson plans as well as bibliography for teachers and students.

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#### Further comments

This unit focuses on using mythology as an incentive for reading for young students. The students are encouraged to compare the different heroes and try to understand what makes a hero, especially in mythology. Furthermore, via the stories the students learn about the concept of myths, mainly the fantastic illogical elements of them.

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