



# Classical Mythology: The Basics

*By Richard Martin*

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This is an engaging introduction which explores the latest thinking about Classical mythology, the history of interpreting myths and the role of myths in cultural tradition, from painting to opera, philosophy, politics, drama, and religion in the modern day. It answers such questions as

- what are ancient myths and who invented them
- where do gods come from
- what makes a hero
- how is Classical myth used in the modern world
- and what approaches are there to the study of myth?

Featuring further reading and case studies from antiquity to the modern day, this is an essential introduction to the myths which have been a fundamental part of Western culture throughout history.

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### **Review**

"An engaging and insightful introduction that explains the character and significance of Classical mythology in the ancient world and outlines how and why it continues to matter today."

- Dr Fiona Hobden, University of Liverpool, UK

"*Classical Mythology: The Basics* is a good first approach to the vast field of mythology ... the clear and complete nature of the book makes it accessible to a wide audience whose knowledge of the subject [may not be] extensive."

- Sarah Lagrou, Universite Grenoble Alpes (France), the Bryn Mawr Classical Review

### **About the Author**

Richard Martin is Professor in Classics at Stanford University and has twenty-five years' experience in teaching an introduction to Classical Mythology to undergraduate students. He is widely published on Homer, Hesiod, Pindar, Aristophanes, Theognis, and other ancient authors and genres in which mythic narration figures prominently.

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