

Greek Culture/Odyssey Research Project

We do not exist in isolation. Who we are, the perspectives we have, and our actions and decisions often reflect the specific environment, time period, and culture in which we live. In essence, we are a representation of the various cultural elements that we are surrounded by.

*Similarly, even though Odysseus is so far removed from his homeland of Ithaca, he carries within him the various cultural elements of Greek culture. Embedded within Odysseus are the cultural elements of the lifestyle from which he comes. His interaction with strange people and creatures, his important decisions, and even his reaction to obstacles and challenges are formulated by Odysseus' upbringing with the Greek culture. From rules of hospitality, to creating a legacy, to obeying the gods, to the importance of prophecies, the elements of Odysseus' culture help inform and influence his decisions and actions as he struggles to return home to Ithaca. These cultural elements also collectively influence the actions, decisions, and thoughts of other characters in *The Odyssey*.*

Research Objectives:

- **Literary Analysis:** To learn about ancient Greek culture to better understand how it influenced Odysseus' decisions in his travels
- **Research Skills:**
 - Learn how to find and record information for a research assignment
 - Analyze and evaluate researched information for its effectiveness in a research paper
- **Writing Skills:**
 - Correctly imbed and cite quotes from a nonfiction source
 - Correctly paraphrase and cite information from a nonfiction source
 - Correctly write a works cited list

Research Assignment: You will research one aspect of Greek culture and present that topic to the class.

--You will construct the following:

1. An annotated bibliography
2. A detailed research outline. (**must** be typed!!). You **must** use the essay outline form posted online on my faculty webpage to type your research information into the outline.
3. ONE research BODY PARAGRAPH (from one of your outlined body paragraphs—MLA format)

Research Topics (you will be assigned one):

- _____ **Greek Hospitality & Etiquette** (Importance of food and manners)
- _____ **Oracles and Prophecies** (some popular oracles/prophets/prophecies? why were they significant to the ancient Greeks?)
- _____ **Honoring the Dead** (how were they buried/ honored? significance of proper burial?)
- _____ **Greek Philosophy/Scholars** (what was it? how did they practice it? Who were popular scholars?)
- _____ **War and the Warrior** (how were wars and warriors viewed? gods?)
- _____ **Role of Women** (what did they do? what roles did they play? did they have rights?)
- _____ **Government & Politics** (what kind of government was used? leaders?)
- _____ **Social Status/Hierarchy** (how is society divided? financially? religiously? politically?)
- _____ **Technological Achievements** (what did the ancient Greeks develop to enhance their lifestyles, transportation, food production, architecture?)
- _____ **Entertainment** (were there games, sports, theater, wrestling/ fighting, festivals, etc.?)

Research Project Requirements:

- At least 3 MHS databases (You will read, annotated, and highlight the articles)
- Annotated bibliography
- Detailed research outline.
- ONE research BODY PARAGRAPH

Articles Due: _____

Research Outline Due: _____

Research Body Paragraph Due: _____

Annotated Bibliography Due: _____

The Odyssey- Greek Culture
Research Project Checklist/ Rubric

Name: _____
Date: _____ Per: _____

Topic: _____

Guidelines	Student Check	Total Points
Annotated Research articles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - THREE articles should be from the MHS databases - All articles should be annotated and highlighted/underlined 		/9pts
Annotated Bibliography <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Each article should have an MLA formatted works cited citation - Each source should have a paragraph that consists of two sections: A. a summary of the article and B. an analysis of how useful the source was for your research topic - Annotated bibliography should conform to MLA guidelines 		/30pts
Research Outline <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outline should include a clear, and concise thesis statement - Three distinct sub-topics - Direct quotes and/or paraphrasing from all THREE sources - MLA format for heading and in-text citation 		/20pts
Body Paragraph <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Should be in MLA FORMAT - Should apply formal writing rules - Should have a clear and succinct topic/ closing sentence and closing sentence - Applies parenthetical citations correctly - Uses notes correctly to prove the “writer’s purpose” - Uses a minimum of two facts from various sources to prove the thesis 		/20 pts
Class Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide a brief summary of your topic or a specific section of your topic to the class - Knowledgeable about topic - Well-organized ideas - Incorporate research in discussion 		/10pts

Total: _____/ 89 +1= (90pts)

