

RELI 065

Myth, Philosophy, and Science in the Ancient World



This interdisciplinary course explores conflicting ways of conceiving and shaping reality in the ancient world – religious, scientific, and philosophical. The course is organized around a series of case studies: (1) the formation and makeup of the cosmos; (2) the origin of mankind and its sexual differentiation; (3) the invention of the ‘self’; (4) the origin and nature of dreams; (5) foundations of law, justice, and morality. Readings include Near Eastern mythical narratives and Homeric poems; selections from Plato, Aristotle, and other ancient philosophers; works from the famous Hippocratic corpus and Galen’s medical treatises; and various religious texts from ancient Greece and Rome, early Christianity, and late antiquity.

Zlatko Plese
plese@email.unc.edu

Tuesdays and Thursdays
11:00AM-12:15PM

General Education Requirements: PH, WB

