Summon gods, curse your enemies, and pay homage to the dead in this semester-long journey through the archaeology of cult in ancient Greece and Rome. This course will introduce you to cult and religion in the Greco-Roman world (ca. 6th century BCE through 2nd century CE), with special emphasis on their material dimensions. Against a backdrop of Greek and Roman history, we will examine archaeological case studies from around the Mediterranean region that reflect the diversity of Greco-Roman cult, from Panhellenic sanctuaries, processions, and public sacrifice to magic, divination, and household gods. We will also reflect more broadly on the methods that archaeologists use to interpret material that is classified as "cultic" and consider how the classification of spaces, buildings, and objects as religious impacts how we experience the world today.

Face-to-face/hybrid format. Cross-listed as CLAR 375.