Overview

Most likely, you studied Classical Mythology, also called Greco-Roman Mythology, in school. You read about the various Greek and Roman gods that inspired storytellers and poets to write some of the great epics and tragedies. These myths began as oral traditions, then were late compiled into Greek and Latin writings.

These myths related the Greek and Roman religions, concerned with the actions of gods, supernatural creatures, and the heroes influenced by the gods. The most famous of these were written by Homer, the Iliad and the Odyssey.

The Romans adapted the myths of the Greeks, importing many into their own legends and stories, creating counterparts. Thus, you find Ares mirrored in Mars as the war god, and many gods and demigods with matching legends but different names.

Cinema latched onto these myths as storylines because of their fantastic tales, epic settings, and over-the-top heroes. The films were so popular, a cheaper subgenre emerged called peplum, or more commonly called sword-and-sandal, which were a mix of lower budget Biblical or Mythology based films.

Classical Mythology still fascinates us today, spawning new book series, movies of epic heroes, and games that let us step into the role of mythical heroes and gods. These myths have been part of our modern culture for so long, we associate with them strongly.

Creatures and Monsters of Mythology

Greco-Roman Mythology depicts more than just gods and demi-gods. There is an entire ecosystem of unique creatures and monsters. Many of them exist in similar forms, sometimes with different names, in other mythologies and folklore.

- Argus
- Centaur
- Cerberus
- Cetus
- Chimera
- Colchian Dragon
- Cyclops
- Echidna
- Griffin
- Harpy
- Hecatoncheires
- Lamia
- Lernaean Hydra
- Medusa
- Minotaur
- Myrmekes Indikoi
- Pegasus
- Satyr
- Scylla
- Sphinx
- Triton
- Typhon

Following are sources of information pertaining to Greco-Roman Mythology to assist prospective game masters, game designers, writers, and storytellers in knowing where to start their research.
**Articles**

**Chimeric creatures in Greek mythology and reflections in science**
By Bazopoulou-Kyrkanidou, Euterpe
Source: American Journal of Medical Genetics, v100 n1 (15 April 2001): 66-80

**Pagan mythology in the Christian Empire**
By Liebeschuetz, Wolfgang

**Relics and Remains in an Ancient Greek World full of Anthropomorphic Gods**
By Osborne, Robin

**Books**

**The Aedeid**
By Virgil

**American Gods**
By Gaiman, Neil

**Bulfinch’s Mythology**
By Bulfinch, Thomas

**The Centaur**
By Updike, John

**Child’s Introduction to Greek Mythology: The Stories of the Gods, Goddesses, Heroes, Monsters, and Other Mythical Creatures**
By Alexander, Heather and Hamilton, Meredith

**The Complete World of Greek Mythology**
By Buxton, Richard

**D’Aulaires’ Book of Greek Myths**
By Parin d’Aulaire, Ingri and Edgar

**Gods Behaving Badly**
By Phillips, Marie

**Greek Mythology: Greek Gods - Greek Heroes - Popular Myths - Mythical Creatures (Volume 1)**
By Bullock, Herman

**Greek Religion**
By Burkert, Walter

**The Heroes of Olympus**
By Riordan, Rick

**The Iliad**
By Homer

**Illium**
By Simmons, Dan

**The Infinites**
By Banville, John

**The King Must Die**
By Ranault, Mary

**The Lost Books of the Odyssey**
By Mason, Zachary

**The Marriage of Cadmus and Harmony**
By Calasso, Roberto

**Metamorphoses**
By Ovid

**The Minotaur Takes a Cigarette Break**
By Sherrill, Steven

**Myth and Philosophy: A Contest of Truths**
By Hatab, Lawrence J.

**Mythology: Timeless Tales of Gods and Heroes**
By Hamilton, Edith

**The Odyssey**
By Homer
**Pandora**
By Hennessy, Carolyn

**The Penelopiad**
By Atwood, Margaret

**The Penguin Dictionary of Classical Mythology**
By Grimal, Pierre

**Percy Jackson and the Olympians**
By Riordan, Rick

**Ransom**
By Malouf, David

**Roman Mythology: A Captivating Guide to Roman Gods, Goddesses, and Mythological Creatures**
By Clayton, Matt

**Soldier of the Mist**
By Wolfe, Gene

**The Song of Achilles**
By Miller, Madeline

**Theogony**
By Hesiod

**Till We Have Faces**
By Lewis, C.S.

**Weight: The Myth of Atlas and Heracles**
By Winterson, Jeanette

**Cinema**

300
Alexander
American Gods - TV
Clash of the Titans
Cupid - TV
Helen of Troy - TV Miniseries
Heracles
Hercules in New York
Hercules: The Animated Series - TV
Hercules: The Legendary Journeys - TV
Immortals
Jason of the Argonauts
The Legend of Hercules
Minotaur, the Wild Beast of Crete
Percy Jackson & The Lightning Thief

**Games**

Age of Mythology - Video Game
Age of Mythology: The Board Game - Tabletop Game
Agon - RPG
Argonauts - Tabletop Game
Battle for Olympus - Tabletop Game
By Jove - Tabletop Game

Cyclades - Tabletop Game
Deus - Tabletop Game
Elysium - Tabletop Game
God of War - Video Game
GURPS Greece - RPG
GURPS Imperial Rome - RPG
Hellas - Tabletop Game
Hellas: Worlds of Sun and Stone - RPG
Hera and Zeus - Tabletop Game
High Heavens - Tabletop Game
Immortal - Tabletop Game
Kid Icarus - Video Game
Mythic Battles - Tabletop Game
Mythology - Tabletop Game
Odyssey: Wrath of Poseidon - Tabletop Game
Olympus - Tabletop Game
Rise of the Argonauts - Video Game
Risk: Godstorm - Tabletop Game
Santorina - Tabletop Game
Titan Quest - Video Game
Wrath of the Gods - Video Game
Zeus: Master of Olympus - Video Game
**Locations**

The Acropolis Museum

British Museum
[https://www.britishmuseum.org/about_us/departments/greece_and_rome.aspx](https://www.britishmuseum.org/about_us/departments/greece_and_rome.aspx)

Naples Archaeological Museum
[https://www.museoarcheologiconapoli.it/en/](https://www.museoarcheologiconapoli.it/en/)

National Archaeological Museum

**People**

(Well...Greek/Roman gods actually)
Aphrodite/Venus
Apollo/Apollo
Ares/Mars
Artemis/Diana
Athena/Minerva
Charites/Gratiae
Demeter/Ceres
Enyres/Furiae
Eris/ Discordia
Eros/Cupid

Hades/Pluto
Helios/Sol
Hephaistos/Vulcan
Hera/Juno
Hermes/Mercury
Hestia/Vesta
Horai/Horae
Kronos/Saturn
Moirae/Parcae
Pan/Faunus
Persephone/Proserpina
Poseidon/Neptune
Selene/Luna
Tyche/Fortuna
Zeus/Jupiter

(Achilles
Aeacus
Aeneas
Amphion
Arcas
Asclepius
Bellerophon
Dardanus
Dionysus/Bacchus
Epaphus
Harmonia
Heracles/Hercules
Helen of Troy
Hippolyta
Iasus
Memnon
Orion
Orpheus
Penthesilea
Perseus
Polydeuces/Pollux
/Romulus and Remus
Theseus
Tityos/Turnus
Zethes
Zethus