Assessment of this WS: Good

This student understood the relationship between the complexity of the organization of the first site and its purpose (see wensite 1, question 6) and fell just short of articulating its underlying assumption about Greek myth – that it is Greek, not universal. With the second website, this student described and understood the simple organizational scheme and lack of evidence and, again, fell just short of connecting that to the website’s Wiccan agenda.

Greek & Roman Mythology - 11264

11 September 2015

Website a

1. Describe: What is the title of this website? Please list it as you would for a bibliography. The Chicago Manual of Style suggests that, when you cite a website, it should follow this format:
   Author. “Title.” Last modified date OR date accessed. URL. (5 pts)


2. Describe: What mythic material does the website (not just the landing page) cover? You need not be specific – an overview will suffice (gods, gods and heroes, texts, women, many cultures, only Greek and Roman, etc.). Please elaborate. (5 pts)

   This website covers gods, goddesses, heroes/heroines, creatures, Greek and Greek-Roman artistic interpretations of mythology, as well as classical Greek, Roman, and Latin mythological literature. Additionally, the author covers Greek star myths and Greek plant and flower myths. There is a family tree, derived from Hesiod’s Theogony. However, the main focus is on gods, creatures, spirits, and heroes.

3. Describe: How is the content of the website (not just the landing page) organized? (e.g. by culture, historical period, character, text, etc.). Is it primarily hierarchical, or are there lateral (side-to-side) connections or some other organizational scheme? (5 pts)

   The website is organized by the category which they fall under. For example, Zeus can be found under Olympian gods, Hecate is under Titan gods, and Pandora is under Heroes, Kings, and Villains. The author then alphabetically lists less-popular characters at the bottom of the page.
and describes who they were and what made them significant. There is a search bar and an encyclopedia to make the website more user-friendly. Underneath the Pantheon section, the author also provides a list of the specific gods Roman name, family, modern spellings, links to pages on the site, and iconography images. He also provides links for classical texts and external sources. To me, the website is mostly database-oriented with inflections of hierarchical, topical, and hypertext schemes.

4. Analyze: What does this organization suggest about the author’s perspective on ancient mythology? How does this organization direct their audience through the material? How effective is that guidance? (10 pts)

The organization of the website suggests the author has a typical mindset about Greek mythology, which Hesiod intended to portray. There is a certain structure to the culture and that is how the website is laid out - very structured and systematic. I also believe the way the pages are hyperlinked to dozens of other pages can be related to how the Greek jumped around from person to person and therefore are basically closely related to nearly every other god or goddess.

5. Describe: What sort of evidence do the authors use to make their points? (ancient texts and/or artworks, dictionaries of mythology, no evidence given, etc.)? (5 pts)

The author provides multiple forms of evidence to help inform the reader. Under each category, the fact that he provides visual representations, as well as other translations and views of the character, shows that he wants to list as much information as possible. There is links to outside websites and a classical text library.

6. Analyze: Who is the target audience for this website? How can you tell? (10 pts)

The target audience for this website seems to be for older people who have already been familiarized with ancient mythology. I can tell it is definitely for a more mature audience due to the way they don’t hold back on the gruesomeness of how Aphrodite was born. The website also is a higher organization level with complex theories and inflections of Roman mythology, which the viewer wouldn’t understand if they didn’t have some background of mythology. The paintings on the main page would strike a newbie per say as strange, especially how the icon for Titans is a sculpture of Atlas holding up the world.

7. Analyze: What overall argument are the authors making about myth? Put another way, what is the agenda or bias of the website’s creators? (10 pts)

To me, the website just seems to be one where any particularly interested reader could visit and leave with better knowledge of ancient mythology. It is also one that is hard to leave because of the ability to go from page to page to page. There is so much information provided without any obvious bias towards or against mythology. However, the amount of time it must have taken to create a website like this leads me to believe they must have a passion for mythology and want to share that passion.
Website b

1. Describe: What is the title of this website? Please list it as you would for a bibliography. The Chicago Manual of Style suggests that, when you cite a website, it should follow this format:

   Author. “Title.” Last modified date OR date accessed. URL. (5 pts)


2. Describe: What mythic material does the website (not just the landing page) cover? You need not be specific – an overview will suffice (gods, gods and heroes, texts, women, many cultures, only Greek and Roman, etc.). Please elaborate. (5 pts)

   The website covers Greek gods, goddesses, heroes, myths, and legends. The author also provides links to other cultural gods, such as Egyptian, Celtic, Native American, Norse, and Roman. Under the certain god/goddess, they list alternative names, the meaning of their name, family relations, and a brief summary of their most well-known accomplishment/deed.

3. Describe: How is the content of the website (not just the landing page) organized? (e.g. by culture, historical period, character, text, etc.). Is it primarily hierarchical, or are there lateral (side-to-side) connections or some other organizational scheme? (5 pts)

   The organization of this website is mainly just a list by character/category. For example, the categories are Olympians, Major Gods, and Minor Gods. There is not a way to jump from page to page, as they are all listed on one very long page. If you stray away from the Greek gods/goddesses page, the rest of the website is categorized by culture, and then again by a character/category list.

4. Analyze: What does this organization suggest about the author’s perspective on ancient mythology? How does this organization direct their audience through the material? How effective is that guidance? (10 pts)

   I would say the author views mythology as the gods/goddesses only fall under one category and no other. The organization doesn’t direct the audience very well since there isn’t much organization at all. Therefore, the guidance probably isn’t efficient unless you already know about Greek mythology.

5. Describe: What sort of evidence do the authors use to make their points? (ancient texts and/or artworks, dictionaries of mythology, no evidence given, etc.)? (5 pts)

   There isn’t really any hard evidence provided. All of the text seems to be written as a summary from the author’s previous knowledge, since there is no citations or references to any ancient books, such as Hesiod’s *Theogony*.

6. Analyze: Who is the target audience for this website? How can you tell? (10 pts)

   Honestly, I feel like this website layout was designed with all 2007 pre-teen MySpace users in mind. I literally had to triple-check that I was on the right website. Biographies of the different gods and goddesses are retrospectively short, without much extensive information to them. With that being said, this doesn’t seem like a popular mythology website. To find this website, I feel
as if you had to already know the author. Additionally, I believe the website is directed towards those who agree with his views on life.

7. Analyze: What overall argument are the authors making about myth? Put another way, what is the agenda or bias of the website’s creators? (10 pts)
I went back to the very first home page and there is a sentence that says “If it [the information on the site] does bother you then click on the exit button to go to another place on the web”. Therefore, this leads me to believe that the way the information on the website is portrayed is in a way to make you agree with him. However, when actually reading the information provided, there isn’t a biased voice to his words.