Instructions
In this assignment you are asked to visit and explore a pair of websites, and to review them using the attached worksheet. This assignment is worth 100 points, or 10% of your grade.

For each website, don’t restrict yourself to the given page only. If links on that page send you to related pages, please explore them. Please download this worksheet, fill it out electronically, and turn it in via SafeAssign sometime on Friday September 11. You need not keep the first page. Thank you.

Goals
This worksheet addresses four of the intellectual goals listed on the syllabus:

1) discern among and evaluate competing claims or approaches to myths or to the problems they explore
2) read critical scholarly literature, identifying and assessing the shape and agenda of a scholarly argument and interrelating it to other texts/readings
3) understand the cultural and individual contingency of myth
4) recognize myths at work and play in your own culture and life

By assessing online resources about myth, you will evaluate what sorts of information web authors choose to include on their websites, and the way they compose and arrange that information to promote a certain understanding (their understanding) of mythology. This exploration of modern uses and presentations of myth reinforces a central course lesson: that myths are not universal or absolute but are told, constructed, mobilized, and meaningful in specific cultural and personal contexts.

Strategies
Please read through the questions before you complete the worksheet, even before you visit the websites. Then spend some time browsing the websites before you begin to fill out the worksheet. Browse thoroughly – go beyond the landing point, please. Do this assignment early enough that if one of the links does not work (which occasionally happens, though we checked them recently), you can contact us for alternatives.

Website pair
a) http://www.theoi.com/
b) http://onespiritx.tripod.com/gods10.htm
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)

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)

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)
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)

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

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)
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)

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)

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

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)