

BACKGROUND INFORMATION, THE ODYSSEY

Some good links for background information for you and your students are:

<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu> – We cannot speak too enthusiastically about this site. You could spend days here. Gregory Crane and crew have put together one of the most comprehensive sites on ancient Greece. From an extensive collection of online *complete* ancient texts to a thorough and cross-referenced encyclopedia – texts and images – this site can answer pretty much any question you may have. There is also a large selection of college course syllabi that even if you just skim through them, can give you good background information on many aspects of ancient Greek life.

<http://devlab.dartmouth.edu/olympic/site> – You can all take a virtual tour of the Temple to Olympian Zeus here. Plus there's a wealth of information and photographs of all aspects of the Olympics. And, there's a good glossary of terms associated with the Olympics.

<http://www.geocities.net/Athens/Aegean/7545/Troy.html> – for a REALLY easy to read summary of pre-*Iliad* through *The Odyssey*. Also a good bibliography for Greece, Trojan War, Homer, etc. Students can also use this site. And it considers some of the controversies about whether or to what degree *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey* are founded on actual events/places/people.

http://devlab.dartmouth.edu/history/bronze_age/lessons/27.html – for an archaeological consideration of the demise of Troy

<http://hsa.brown.edu/maicar/TrojanWar.html> – for a quick summary of the Trojan War from *The Iliad*

<http://hsa.brown.edu/maicar/TrojanWarCE.html> – a flowchart of events beginning before Helen's abduction and continuing after the end of *The Odyssey*. If you refer to this, be careful to distinguish in class between what actually occurs in *The Odyssey* and what are surrounding events from other sources (including *The Iliad*)

<http://www.angelfire.com/mi/myth> – a good-sized bibliography of online mythology sites

<http://webhome.crk.umn.edu/~sneet/WesCiv/TrojanWar.htm> – for another fairly quick summary of about the same time period. Also, this site has a brief reflection on the role of *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey* in western culture. Interesting.