

# Gods and Goddesses of Ancient Rome

Grades 9-12

Estimated Time 50 minutes

<b>Objectives</b>	Upon completion of this lesson on the gods and goddesses of ancient Rome, students in grades 9-12 will be able to identify the major gods and goddesses that dominated Roman society and know their roles in the lives of the Roman people. Students will also gain experience with online blogging when discussing the topic.
<b>Resources Used</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <a href="http://www.unrv.com/culture/major-roman-god-list.php">http://www.unrv.com/culture/major-roman-god-list.php</a></li><li>○ <a href="http://gwydir.demon.co.uk/jo/roman/index.htm">http://gwydir.demon.co.uk/jo/roman/index.htm</a></li></ul>
<b>Materials Needed</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Notes outlining the chapter</li><li>○ A quiz prepared for students to take at the end of the lesson</li><li>○ Students must make a Flokio account in order to participate in the class discussion</li></ul>
<b>Procedure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ This is a lecture style lesson, and direct students to take notes while you present the information below. After the lecture is completed, have the students will log onto their Flokio accounts where you will create a class group called Ancient Roman Gods and Goddesses. Then have the students participate in an online class discussion regarding the differences and similarities between the Roman and Greek gods and which Roman gods are their favorites.</li><li>○ The required information for this lesson can be found in Appendix A.</li></ul> <p><b>Class Discussion:</b></p> <p><b><u>When to respond:</u></b> Have the students make their own post at the end of the lesson and have them also respond to at least 3 other people's posts by the next class period.</p> <p><b><u>What To Do:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Have the students log into their Flokio accounts that they have already created.</li><li>2. Have students search for the group called Ancient Roman Gods and Goddesses.</li><li>3. Direct each student to join that specific group.</li><li>4. As a response, have the students name at least 1 similarity and 1 difference between the Roman and Greek gods and goddesses.</li><li>5. Once they have made their initial post, have the students review the other students' responses and have each student give another student their opinion and/or comment about the ideas that have been posted.</li><li>6. Have the students make a minimum of 3 additional posts in</li></ol>

	response to others in the class. These must be posted by the next class period to receive full credit.
<b>Evaluation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ The evaluation will be a basic short answer quiz that follows along with this lesson to show that the students retained some information regarding the gods and goddesses of ancient Rome.</li><li>○ The students will also participate in a group discussion regarding the gods and goddesses of ancient Rome and will receive participation points.</li></ul>

## Appendix A

### Basic Information:

- Jupiter
  - Ruler of the Gods
  - Considered the god of Sky, Lightning and Thunder.
  - He is the son of Saturn and brother of Neptune, Pluto, and Juno
  - Juno is his wife
  - His attribute is the lightning bolt
  - His symbol the eagle, who is also his messenger
- Juno
  - Queen of the Gods
  - Jupiter's wife and sister
  - Sister to Neptune and Pluto
  - Mother of:
    - Juventas
    - Mars
    - Vulcan
  - Protectress of the Roman state.
  - She was the guardian of the Empire's finances and considered the Matron Goddess of all Rome
  - Month of June was named after her
- Minerva
  - Goddess of:
    - Wisdom
    - Learning
    - The Arts
    - Sciences Medicine
    - Dyeing
    - Trade
    - War
  - Daughter of Jupiter
  - Protectress of commerce, industry and education
- Venus
  - Originally a Goddess of Gardens and Vineyards,
  - Venus became the major deity of love and beauty after the influx of Greek deities.
- Mercury
  - God of:
    - Trade

- Profit
  - Merchants
  - Travellers
- The symbols of Mercury are the caduceus and a purse
- Apollo
  - The son of Jupiter and Leto and the twin brother of Diana
  - God of:
    - Of music
    - The archer
    - The god of healing who taught man medicine.
    - The god of light.
    - The god of truth, who cannot speak a lie.
  - One important daily task is to harness his chariot with four horses and drive the Sun across the sky.
  - He is famous for his oracle at Delphi.
  - People traveled to it from all over the Greek world to divine the future.
  - His tree was the laurel. The crow his bird. The dolphin his animal.
- Ceres
  - Corn Goddess
  - Eternal Mother
  - Goddess of:
    - Agriculture
    - Grain
    - Crops
    - Initiation
    - Civilization
  - Lawgiver and the love a mother bears for her child.
  - Protectress of:
    - Women
    - Motherhood
    - Marriage
  - She and her daughter Proserpine were the counterparts of the Greek goddesses Demeter and Persephone.
  - Her worship involved fertility rites and rites for the dead
- Diana
  - Goddess of:
    - Fertility
    - The moon
    - Nature
    - Childbirth

- Wildwood
  - Forests
  - Animals
  - Mountains
  - Woods
  - Woman
  - The Hunt
- Usually appears as a huntress with bow and arrow, along with a hunting dog or a stag
- Similar to Greek goddess Artemis
- She is praised for her:
  - Strength
  - Athletic grace
  - Beauty
  - Hunting skills
- Mars
  - God of:
    - War
    - Spring
    - Growth in nature
    - Agriculture
    - Terror
    - Anger
    - Revenge
    - Courage
    - Fertility
  - Protector of cattle
  - The son of Jupiter and Juno
  - He was the most prominent of the military gods that were worshipped by the Roman legions
  - The martial Romans considered him second in importance only to Jupiter
- Vesta
  - Goddess of:
    - Fire
    - The Hearth.
  - Daughter of Saturn and Ops
  - Her sacred animal was the ass
  - Patroness of bakers.
  - One of the most worshipped of the Roman deities

- Vulcan
  - God of
    - Fire
    - Blacksmiths
    - Craftsmanship
  - His forge is located beneath Mount Etna.
  - It is here that he forges weapons for Gods and heroes