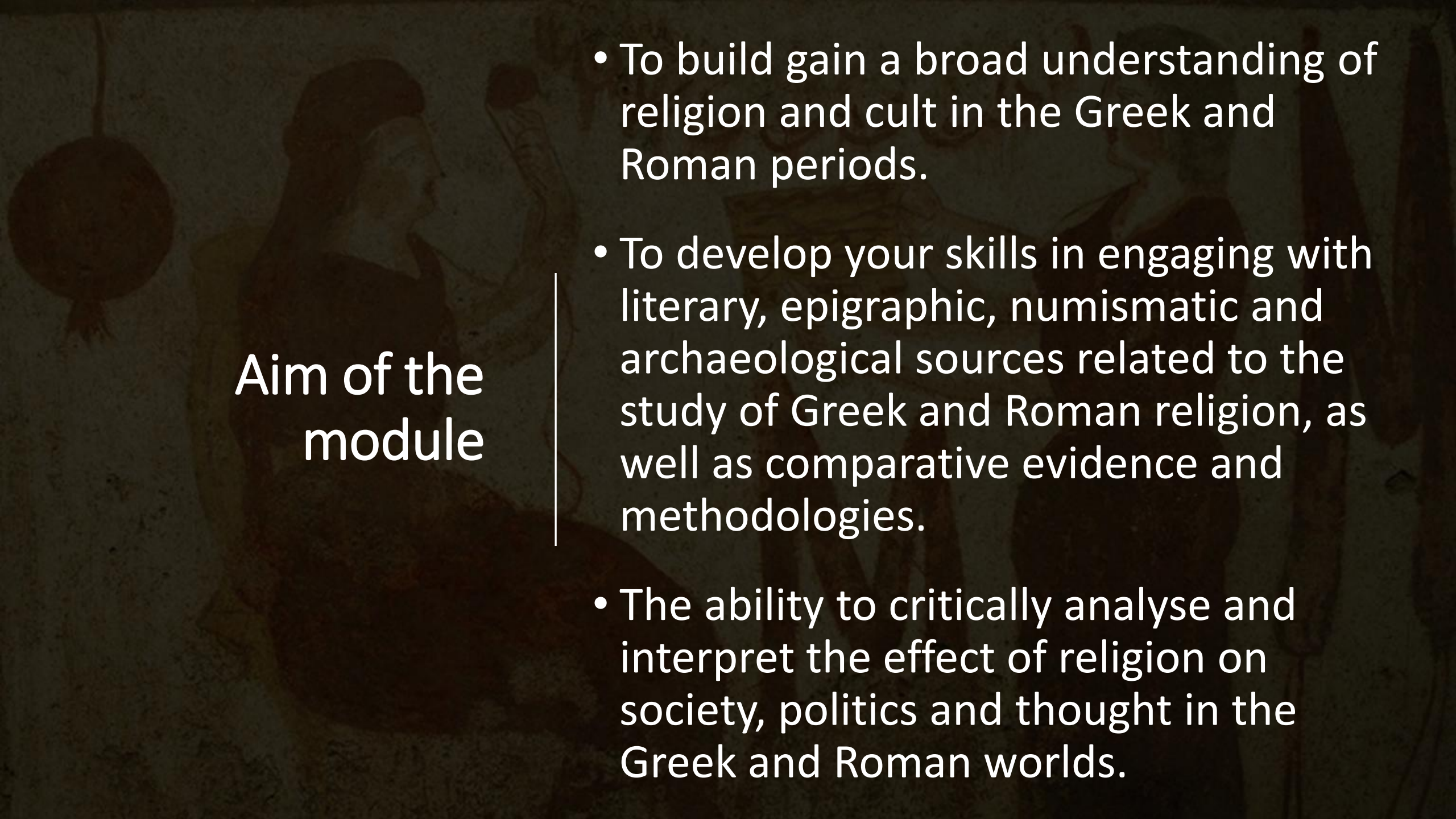




Aspects of Greek and Roman Religion and Cult (HPAH7020)

Welcome and
module overview





Aim of the module

- To build gain a broad understanding of religion and cult in the Greek and Roman periods.
- To develop your skills in engaging with literary, epigraphic, numismatic and archaeological sources related to the study of Greek and Roman religion, as well as comparative evidence and methodologies.
- The ability to critically analyse and interpret the effect of religion on society, politics and thought in the Greek and Roman worlds.

Recordings and Seminars

- A mixture of live seminars and some pre-recorded videos.
- There are also exercises/tasks that students can undertake across the 10 units.
- Online live sessions to take – via MS Teams – on Mondays at 2-4 pm (UK time) + some added discussion time.



The logo for ExLibris Leganto Reading Lists. It features the word "ExLibris" in a dark grey, sans-serif font. Above the "i" in "Libris" is a small, multi-colored rainbow arch. Below "ExLibris" is the word "Leganto" in a purple, sans-serif font. Underneath "Leganto" is the phrase "Reading Lists" in a smaller, dark grey, sans-serif font.

ExLibris Leganto Reading Lists

- Specific readings in each unit (often in connection with exercises/tasks).
- But see also general readings in the Leganto reading list.

Useful introductory works:

- Kindt, J. (2012). *Rethinking Greek Religion*. Cambridge ; New York: Cambridge UP.
- Larson, J. (2007). *Ancient Greek Cults A Guide*. Hoboken: Taylor and Francis.
- Rüpke, J. (2007). *A companion to Roman religion*. Blackwell.

UNIT	TOPIC	LECTURER
1 [2nd February 2026]	Greek and Roman Religion in Context	Matthew Cobb
2 [9th February 2026]	Sources on Greek & Roman Religion	Matthew Cobb
3 [16th February 2026]	Origin of Greek Temples	Matthew Cobb
4 [23rd February 2026]	Greek hero cults	Matthew Cobb
5 [2nd March 2026]	Politics and Religion	Matthew Cobb
6 [9th March 2026]	Private, Public and Mystery	Matthew Cobb
7 [16th March 2026]	Religion, Gender and Family	Matthew Cobb
8 [23rd March 2026]	Myth and Cult	Matthew Cobb
9 [30th March 2026]	New Gods and Cults	Matthew Cobb
10 [8th April 2026]	Monotheism and Polytheism in LA	Matthew Cobb

Assessment 1: Discussion of a Cult/Sanctuary

Choose a cult site or sanctuary in the Greek or Roman worlds and write an analytical discussion of it in 3000 words.

You should include the following:

1. A discussion and analysis of the sources and evidence (archaeological, literary, iconographic, epigraphic) regarding the sanctuary / site.
2. The scholarly views and interpretations of the sanctuary / site.
3. The main issues and debates on the sanctuary / site.

Examples:

1. The cult of Aphrodite in Corinth
 2. The sanctuary of Zeus at Nemea
- Better to avoid choosing extremely large sanctuaries, such as Olympia or Delphi.

Deadline: 16/3/26



Assessment 2: Essay

Write a 4000-word essay on any aspect of Greek or Roman religion and cult.

- You can write on any aspect of Greek or Roman (or Mediterranean) religion that you prefer according to your own interests.
- There should avoid overlap between your cult discussion and your essay.

Deadline: 24/4/26

