Fabulae Mythicae

Fabulae Mythicae is an eleven-thousand-word (and counting!) collection of Greek myths told in Latin. I began writing them in 2011 for my own students because there seemed to be a dearth of mythology-focused resources for learning Latin *ab initio*. My students overwhelmingly came to Latin out of a love of mythology and, knowing that compelling material is conducive to learning, I decided to create my own.

The first chapter is unapologetically inspired by Hans Ørberg's *Lingua Latina Per Se Illustrata*, where images make the simple Latin comprehensible. I wanted to use a map that reflected an ancient understanding of world geography, however, so I used a map inspired by Pomponius Mela's work on Geography (I have not been able to ascertain who made the map in the current version of the text for purposes of permissions or credits and hope to produce my own for subsequent updates).

The stories themselves draw on Apollodorus' *Bibliotheca*, Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, Vergil's *Aeneid*, and other classical and postclassical Greek and Latin texts. Some of the stories have been adapted in part or in whole from these sources. Others are Latin-language compositions based on widely-recognized versions of these stories.

The collection of stories, although influenced by theories and principles of communicative language instruction and comprehensible input does not align with any specific teaching or learning methodology. I myself have used a mixture of grammar/translation, reading, and communicative approaches in teaching with them over the last decade. I have incorporated more communicative activities in my own practice in recent years and found that my students' ability to understand written Latin improved in the process.

These stories can be used as primary or supplemental readings in Latin classes, as choice-reading options, or for self-study. I am in the process of revising the explanatory materials outlining new grammar and syntax for each chapter.

The pages are laid out so that, when printed, the running vocabulary is on the left and Latin text is on the right. The vocabulary lists are guided by the [Dickinson College Commentaries core vocabulary](). All non-core vocabulary words are glossed the first time they appear on a page throughout the collection. DCC core words are glossed the first time they appear on each page in the first chapter in which they appear.

The first five chapters are available here at no cost. I plan to keep these freely available and to make other chapters (in groups of two to five at a time) available at a modest price in future. If you would be interested in more materials like this or have any feedback, please let me know at xylosphongium@gmail.com.