

Possible orders for teaching Metamorphoses

1. This sequence follows Ovid's own order, which may feel less organised as they jump around a bit in terms of characters and content, but is authentic:

Creation 1 - The Very Beginning
Creation 2 - Prometheus
Creation 3 - Pandora
The Time of Greed - Lycaon
The Time of Greed - Deucalion
Phaethon
Actaeon
Echo and Narcissus
Demeter and Persephone
Arachne
Theseus and the Minotaur
(Labyrinth)
Daedalus and Icarus
Calydonian Boar Hunt
Baucis and Philemon
Erysichthon
Orpheus and Eurydice
Adonis and Aphrodite
King Midas 1
King Midas 2
Cygnus

2. Another idea is to follow a development from gods to man as if following the changes on earth as gods became less present around mortals and there is less interaction between them. First mortals are created and after the first purge (Deucalion), the gods love humans, but the hubris of mankind sours this relationship and the punishment of mortals ensues, redeemed only by the love of Baucis and Philemon, until men are left to fight among themselves:

Creation 1 - The Very Beginning
Creation 2 - Prometheus
Creation 3 - Pandora
The Time of Greed - Lycaon
The Time of Greed - Deucalion
Demeter and Persephone
Phaethon
Echo and Narcissus
Adonis and Aphrodite
Actaeon
Orpheus and Eurydice
Baucis and Philemon
Arachne
King Midas 1
King Midas 2
Erysichthon
Daedalus and Icarus
(Labyrinth)
Theseus and the Minotaur
Calydonian Boar Hunt
Cygnus

3. Another way to consider grouping the stories is to order them thematically. This is still roughly chronological in that it follows the creation of man and the interaction with the gods up to the independence of mankind on earth. It does mean, however, that there is often less connection between adjoining stories:

Creation and Aetiology

Creation 1 - The Very Beginning

Creation 2 - Prometheus

Creation 3 - Pandora

Demeter and Persephone

Phaethon

Human Greed and the Punishment of Mortals

The Time of Greed - Lycaon

The Time of Greed - Deucalion

Erysichthon

King Midas 1

King Midas 2

Actaeon

The Hubris of Craftsmen and Artists

Arachne

Daedalus and Icarus

(Labyrinth)

Theseus and the Minotaur

Love and Separation

Echo and Narcissus

Adonis and Aphrodite

Orpheus and Eurydice

Baucis and Philemon

Man and War

Calydonian Boar Hunt

Cygnus