

Antigone

ca. 442 BCE

Significant names (partly generic figures)

Antigone	Born to oppose [anti/gon=gen]
Polyneices	Much harm [poly/neic=nec=noc or nox]
Eteocles	True fame [ete/=etymo/log/y + kle]
Creon	Ruler [kre=kra=cra(t)]

Hermeneutics:

interpretation of myth that includes: 1) **functionalism**; 2) **comparativism**; 3) **symbolism**; 4) **structuralism** (Saussure, Lévi-Strauss)/Gk. men . . . de (on the one hand . . . on the other)

Comparativism/Symbolism: Oedipal complex (Freud)
Antigone as male substitute
Haemon
Female adolescent myths

Curse on the House of Laius

irony

ergon vs. logos (= deed vs. word)

denial of Eros

Creon causes inversion of life/death

Structuralism

<u>Creon</u>	vs.	<u>Tiresias</u>
blindness		sight
human knowledge		divine knowledge

hubris

improper rule

proper rule

Radical Theater up to and beyond Bertolt Brecht

<u>Antigone</u>	vs.	<u>Creon</u>
divine (or natural) law		human law
family		polis
private/individual		public
female		male
nature		civilization
chthonic		Olympian gods

friends vs. enemies

Post-Structuralism (Derrida)—the line blurs between many of the preceding (supposedly) antithetical categories

moral vs. immoral/Hegel's dialectic

Ode to Man/Heidegger