



# RALSTON COLLEGE

## ARES AND ANGER

### ARE GREEK GODS REAL?

Much of ancient Greek literature, philosophy, and art seeks to understand the gods and their relationship to humanity. As materialists, modern Westerners often fail to empathize with the ancients' perspective on the divine. In this lesson, students will be challenged to contemplate what phenomena the ancients might've been seeking to understand by giving character to invisible forces. To explore that very idea, students will hear a myth about the god Ares and look at related art.



- 40 minutes
- Recommended for ages 10 to 14

### LESSON PLAN

- Settle in and self-introductions (5 minutes)
- Opening with a painting of Greek gods intervening in human affairs and ask students to tell a story about the image (5 minutes)
- Read a myth about Ares (10 minutes)
- Open up group Socratic discussion: How would that story have been different if Ares wasn't in it? First students will turn to a neighbor and discuss for a few minutes, then we'll come together and discuss as a group. (10 minutes)
- Present some historical information on Greek conception of Ares and explain how the gods helped them understand the way that the world works (10 minutes)