

The planets and other objects of the solar system are named after the gods and goddesses of Greek and Roman mythology. Here is a list of some of these gods and their role in the ancient myths.



Greek: Helios
Roman: **Sol***
Role: God of the sun



Greek: Hermes
Roman: **Mercury**
Role: Messenger of the gods



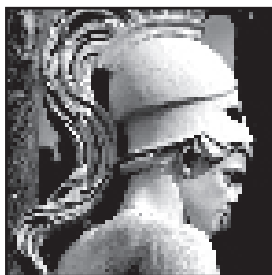
Greek: Aphrodite
Roman: **Venus**
Role: Goddess of love/beauty



Greek: Gaia
Roman: **Terra***
Role: Goddess of the earth



Greek: Selene
Roman: **Luna***
Role: Goddess of the moon



Greek: Ares
Roman: **Mars**
Role: God of war



Greek: Demeter
Roman: **Ceres**
Role: Goddess of grain/fertility



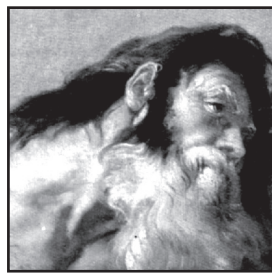
Greek: Zeus
Roman: **Jupiter**
Role: God of thunder, king of gods



Greek: Kronos
Roman: **Saturn**
Role: Father of Zeus, king of titans



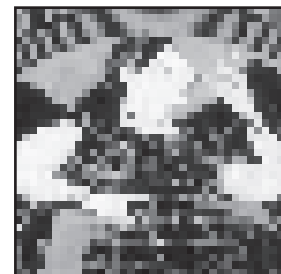
Greek: **Ouranos (Uranus)**
Roman: Caelus
Role: The sky, father of Kronos



Greek: Poseidon
Roman: **Neptune**
Role: God of the sea



Greek: Hades
Roman: **Pluto**
Role: God of the underworld



Greek: **Eris**
Roman: Discordia
Role: Goddess of chaos

* The languages of the Romance family derive their words for the sun, earth, and moon from the names of the Roman gods (e.g. Spanish "sol," "tierra," and "luna"). A link can also be seen in the English words "solar," "terrestrial" and "lunar."