Integrity
Curiosity
Respect



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A LEVEL

Classical Civilisation

WHAT IS CLASSICS?

God(s), sex, and politics, not to mention mythology, drama, archaeology, architecture, religion, history, philosophy, love, art and literature; Classical Civilisation covers every possible topic with which one could hope to offer offence at a polite dinner party.

Encompassing an entire world of thought, which was just as complex and sophisticated as our own, this subject is the ultimate humanity, a rare opportunity to study, unencumbered by any language barrier, an alien society in its entirety. The Greek and Roman civilisations arguably more than any other still dictate why and how modern Brits think and behave as they do in the 21st century.

WHY STUDENTS CHOOSE THIS COURSE

Students opting for Classics often have a background of enjoying studying other cultures via English Literature, History or RS at GCSE. They may have grown up with an interest in heroes and Greek mythology. They will enjoy reading books. Although Classical Civilisation exists as a GCSE course, the vast majority of students taking the subject for A level have not taken the subject for GCSE.

WHAT STUDENTS CAN DO WITH THIS COURSE

Success in the subject depends chiefly upon intellectual curiosity and the ability and desire to read widely and write at length. As such, it allows students to cultivate a diverse range of intellectual and communication skills. It also demonstrates to university admissions tutors that the applicant is highly motivated, independently minded and, of course, civilised. A broad and exciting range of higher education courses are available to progress onto and we will help students prepare for this next step. Classics is sometimes considered the preserve of students who have been educated in independent fee-paying schools but, at D6A, we don't agree. We firmly believe that the door opening advantages of Classics are just as relevant to our own students as to those at any elite boarding school. A degree in Classics can lead to careers as diverse as Accountancy, Law, Education and Management Consultancy. Or, like the classicist Boris Johnson, you could become Prime Minister.

HOW THIS COURSE IS ASSESSED

The World of the Hero- 2 hour 20 minute written paper (40%)

- Culture and the Arts- 1 hour 45 minute written paper (30%)
- Beliefs and Ideas- 1 hour 45 minute written paper (30%)

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

All our course entry requirements are detailed in the Entry Requirements document located in the admissions section of our website.

FURTHER READING

- Omnibus Magazine https://archive.
- org/details/omnibusmagazine
- Madeleine Miller 'The Song of
- Achilles'
- Robert Harris 'Imperium'
- Homer 'Odyssey'
- Virgil 'Aeneid'
- Euripides 'Bacchae'
- Aristophanes 'Frogs'
- Mary Renault 'Fire from Heaven'

What the course covers

The first year of the Classical Civilisation A level course will provide students with the opportunity to develop an understanding of the ancient world in terms of its literature, politics, religion and culture.

All learners will study material from both Greece and Rome and their surrounding worlds, drawn from diverse time periods ranging from prehistoric Greece to Imperial Rome.

Unit 1: The World of the Hero

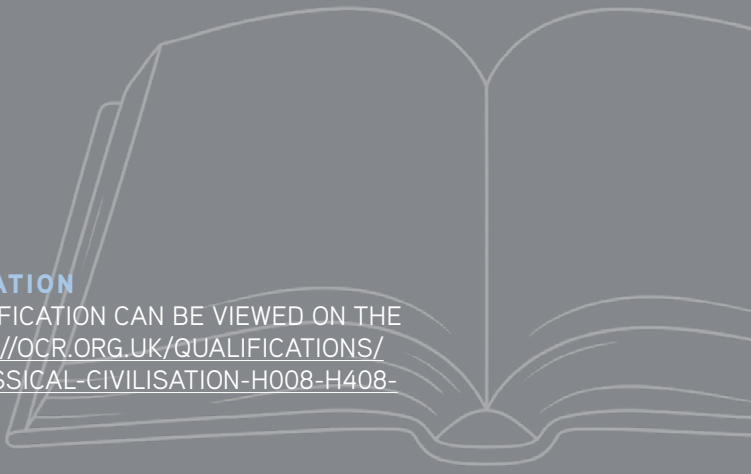
The important and ever popular literary genre of 'epic' forms the basis of the mandatory component The World of the Hero (H408/11). This component will explore both Greek and Roman epic, with the study of Homer's 'Odyssey', one of the very earliest works of literature in the world, and Virgil's 'Aeneid', a text which has had a greater impact on the thinking of western Europe than any other secular text.

Unit 2: Culture and the Arts

The component group Culture and the Arts (H408/21) at D6A will focus on Greek Theatre, including study of the development, staging and impact of both tragedy and comedy. Each year we compliment the study of this module with trips to watch performances of the Greek plays.

Unit 3 Beliefs and Ideas

In this unit we deliver the Greek Religion module (H408/31). Learners are given the opportunity to explore some of the ideas and ideals important to the ancient Greeks. We examine personal and public religious behaviour, the physical remains of the great temple complexes, the significance attached by the Greeks to cult ritual, including sacrifice, as well as the overlap of religion with politics, art, social customs and philosophy.



FURTHER INFORMATION

THE COMPLETE SPECIFICATION CAN BE VIEWED ON THE OCR WEBSITE: HTTPS://OCR.ORG.UK/QUALIFICATIONS/AS-AND-ALEVEL/CLASSICAL-CIVILISATION-H008-H408-FROM-2017/.