

CLASSICAL CIVILISATION A-LEVEL

Exam Board - OCR

What can I expect from this subject?

Classical Civilisation at A-Level offers students the opportunity to develop a deep understanding of the roots of our own Western culture. Even today we are surrounded by the continuing traditions, which emerged from the extraordinary social, literary, scientific and political experiments sparked off by the Greeks, then picked up and disseminated by the Romans.

Students doing this subject will be willing to engage with the literature and ideas of this Classical world, as well as being open to wider reading and exploring all manner of strands of investigation.

Topics studied are: The World of the Hero, in other words, a study of Homer's Odyssey and Virgil's Aeneid – and a choice from: Greek theatre, Imperial image, Greek art, Politics of the Late Republic, Democracy and the Athenians.

What can I do to prepare for this course?

Be prepared to do some serious holiday reading on all sorts of subjects from the Classical world, watch some documentaries, and immerse yourself in anything Greek or Roman.

What will my next steps be?

Although the opportunities that arise directly from Classical Civilisation A-Level are not obvious, the subject is well recognised as a solid grounding for a number of other academic studies, including, of course, ancient history and archaeology, but also feeding into journalism and careers in the arts generally.