

Why study this course?

Classical Greece was the birthplace of many aspects of Western civilisation: architecture, art, literature, and even language. The Roman Empire built on this cultural foundation; many of our students have driven along a Roman road to arrive in College! The course will give a broad overview of aspects of ancient Greece and Rome; we study the oldest surviving works in the Western literary canon, as well as exploring social, religious and artistic views.

What will I learn on this course?

The structure of the course can be adjusted to suit students' learning preferences; the three areas for study are: The World of the Hero (Homer's *Odyssey* and Virgil's *Aeneid*); Culture and the Arts (Imperial Image); Beliefs and Ideas (Greek Religion). We use primary written material in translation and explore the messages promoted in architecture, statues and coins.

The three areas for study are: The World of the Hero, Culture and the Arts: Imperial Image and Beliefs and Ideas: Greek Religion. In The World of the Hero we compare two heroes of epic poetry: Odysseus and Aeneas, and look at how the epic poets expressed their ideas about what it meant to be a hero. Imperial Image is a chance to explore how Emperor Augustus used imagery and architecture to promote himself; welcome to 1st century AD spin! In Greek Religion we investigate the beliefs and practices of the ancient Greeks, using mythological, literary and archaeological sources to delve into the murkier depths of religious rituals.

What specific skills will I learn?

Classical Civilisation develops students ability to approach primary source material critically, whilst also considering how the ancient cultures' values were promoted through the visual arts. Students will also develop a wider understanding of the historical and cultural context of the materials we study.

Classical Civilisation develops the ability to approach both primary and secondary sources with a critical eye; the range of primary sources encourages a broader appreciation of Western cultural values. In essays students will develop critical and analytical writing skills; focused research tasks will stretch and challenge.

What career paths could this course lead to?

As a highly-regarded academic A level, former students have gone on to a range of university courses and career pathways; whilst some have furthered their study in ancient history and culture, others have gone into Law, Media, Theatre, Philosophy, Art, History or Education. Former students have spent time abroad in places as far-flung as China and Canada!

How is the course structured?

Two-year course consisting of 3 components; each component examined separately at the end of the two years.

Exam board: OCR

Compulsory Component: The World of the Hero (The *Odyssey* and the *Aeneid*.)

The examination is worth 100 marks and lasts 2 hours and 20 minutes. This represents 40% of the total marks for the A Level.

Culture and the Arts: Imperial Image

The examination is worth 75 marks and lasts 1 hours and 45 minutes. This represents 30% of the total marks for the A Level.

Beliefs and Ideas: Greek Religion

The examination is worth 75 marks and lasts 1 hours and 45 minutes. This represents 30% of the total marks for the A Level.

Extra opportunities

In recent years Classical Civilisation students have visited the British Museum during one of its Study Days. We went on the joint Geography/Classics trip to Sorrento, visiting Pompeii and Herculaneum.



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