

A - Level Classical Civilisation (OCR)



INTRODUCTION

Classical Civilisation focuses on the civilisations of Greece and Rome and is a wide-ranging subject involving the study of literature, material culture, ancient thought and ideas, and the ancient historical context. You don't need to know any languages, all the texts are in translation, and it doesn't matter if you haven't studied the Greeks and Romans since primary school; all you need is an interest in the ancient world and its cultures. From women in the ancient world, to the study of religious beliefs and ancient acts of intolerance, Classical Civilisation involves interesting discussions that are directly relevant to today's world.

Entry Requirements: English Language and English Literature at Grade 7 and above, Latin is not required. However, if you studied Latin, it could be beneficial.

SPECIFICATION: OCR's A Level in Classical Civilisation (H408)

Content Overview:

Component 1: The World of the Hero:

- one of Homer's *Iliad* or *Odyssey*
- and Virgil's *Aeneid*

This component is solely focused on the study of literature in translation.

Component 2: Culture and the Arts: Greek Theatre

Components in this group involve the study of visual and material culture

Component Group 3: Beliefs and Ideas: Love and Relationships

Components in this group involve of an area of classical thought, in combination with either the study of literature in translation or visual/material culture.

KEY SKILLS:

- understand, interpret, evaluate and analyse a range of evidence from classical sources in their social, historical and cultural context to produce analytical responses, and effectively substantiated judgements
- present these judgements in a clear, concise and logical manner
- make use of knowledge and understanding of relevant secondary scholars and academics in order to further develop their analysis and argument.

ASSESSMENT:

Component 1. The World of the Hero	100 marks - 2 hours 30 minutes
	Written paper – 40% of Total A-Level
Component 2. Culture and the Arts	75 marks - 1 hour 45 minutes
	Written paper - 30% of Total A-Level
Component 3. Beliefs and Ideas	75 marks - 1 hour 45 minutes
	Written paper – 30% of Total A-Level

CAREERS

Classical Civilisation is naturally particularly valued by Classics departments in UK universities, but not only by Classics departments. The study of A Level Classical Civilisation can often lead to the university-level study of Classics, Drama, English, History, History of Art, Philosophy and Politics. Classical Civilisation is listed on UCL's list of preferred A Level subjects and it is listed on Trinity College, Cambridge's list of Generally Suitable Arts A Levels. It is also listed as a useful subject for degrees in Classical Studies and Philosophy in the Russell Group 'Informed Choices' document. Information from UCAS shows that students who studied Classical Civilisation went on to study in such diverse disciplines as Medicine, Veterinary Science and Chemistry! It is not only those looking to attend university who benefit from the study of Classical Civilisation. From the proven ability to write a well-structured extended response to the acknowledgement of the views of others and a culturally sensitive approach to these, Classics puts students in an excellent position to seek employment and opportunities.

