

## Subject: Classical Civilisation OCR



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### Recommended Textbooks:

*OCR Classical Civilisation: AS & A Level* by Sally Knights (Bloomsbury, 2017)

**If you love Classics, we really recommend you read:**

**Confronting the Classics** – Mary Beard

**The Hemlock Cup** – Bettany Hughes

**The Silence of the Girls** – Pat Barker

**Kaos** (Netflix series)

**Natalie Haynes Stands Up for the Classics** (podcast)

### This course compliments:

English Literature, History, Politics, Philosophy & Ethics, Sociology, Law

### This course covers the following key topics:

Classical Civilisation allows students to explore the classical world of Ancient Greece and Rome through epic poems, tragic plays, visual artefacts, and the religious mythology of the Olympians.

The World of the Hero: *The Odyssey* by Homer and *The Aeneid* by Virgil (40%)  
Exploring the world of the hero in Greek and Roman epics, this unit delves into the poetry of Homer and Virgil, the mythologies of gods and monsters, as well as the heroic narratives of Odysseus and Aeneas in the aftermath of the Trojan War.

#### Greek Religion (30%)

Exploring how the lives of the gods and goddesses permeate Greek and Roman societies, this unit examines the gods of Homer and Hesiod, mystery cults and healing cults, and oracles.

#### The Invention of the Barbarian (30%)

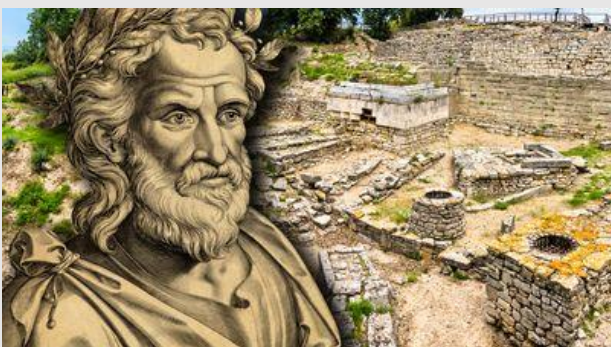
Exploring how the Ancient Greeks conceptualised those from 'other' cultures as barbarians and developed their own sense of cultural identity. This unit looks at the Persian empire, the Amazon warriors, the histories of Herodotus, as well as plays by Euripides and Aeschylus.

### We love teaching this course because

You explore the Classical World from archaic Greece to the Persian empire to Imperial Rome, learning about the ideas and events at the beginning of our shared culture.

Classics can generate creativity for writers, poets, and artists. For example, the phrase "Carpe Diem!" was created by the Roman satirist Horace, and the Queen song "Another One Bites the Dust" was influenced by lines in Homer's Iliad. Classics gives us an opportunity to encounter the great stories and ur-myths which underpin much Western storytelling.

It is a really flexible discipline that combines many topics, including philosophy, language, literature, history, religion, art, architecture, politics, math, and science. If you want a subject that allows you to go beyond the strict borders of subjects, this is the one!



### What future pathways are open to me if I study Classics?

University: Classics, Ancient History, Anthropology, English Literature, History, Archaeology, Liberal Arts, Philosophy Heritage and Cultural Institutions Creative Industries & Publishing