CLASSICAL CIVILISATION

Exam Board: OCR
Entry Requirements: Grade 6 in English Language

COURSE SUMMARY

Classical Civilisation provides a broad, coherent and rewarding study of the literature, thought and art of ancient Greece and Rome. These civilisations provide the basis for much of modern life, but can also be startlingly different. You will study a wide range of socio-political themes, from the cultural values of Homeric Greece to the marvels of Greek Art to the beliefs and ideas of Roman poets—a scope of the most fascinating periods and texts that survive.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Component 1: Component 1: The World of the Hero
40% of A level; written paper; 2hrs 30mins

You will explore the worlds of Greek and Roman heroes through Homer's Iliad and Virgil's Aeneid. You will develop an increasingly sophisticated level of knowledge and understanding of the epics themselves, the way in which they were composed, and the religious, cultural and social values and beliefs of ancient Greek and Roman societies.

Component 2: Culture and the Arts — Greek Theatre
30% of A level; written paper; 1hrs 45mins

The 6th–4th centuries BC was a period of great change in the Greek world, and this is reflected in the art which was produced. In this component learners will have the opportunity to explore and engage with free-standing sculpture, architectural sculpture and vase-painting. This component will hone learners' visual and analytical skills, develop their ability to offer critical analyses, and enable them to articulate an informed personal response to the works under consideration

Component 3: Beliefs and Ideas — Love & Relationships
30% of A level; written paper; 1hrs 45mins

Ideas about love and relationships are key aspects of the literature, thoughts, and ethics of any society. This component offers the opportunity for learners to recognise and relate to the passions, frustrations and delights of love in the ancient world. The ethical questions raised by these ideas continue to be wrestled over by successive generations and this unit will generate interesting and important discussions about love, desire, sex, sexuality and the institution of marriage.

CAREER CHOICES

Classical Civilisation at A-Level is a well-respected and demanding qualification. It will be a great asset to any career which values skills such as high attention to detail, articulacy and the ability to use examples to draw well-informed and convincing conclusions. Such careers regularly include Law, Politics, Business, Journalism and Media. Many students opt to continue the study of Classics at university and go on to be museum curators, archaeologists or archivists.