



CLASSICS IN THE SIXTH FORM

INTRODUCTION

A Classics student gets the best of both worlds: studying a fascinating and exciting subject, and coming out exceptionally well-qualified at the end.

AS/A LEVEL LATIN

If students have enjoyed studying GCSE Latin, A Level is likely to appeal as it is very similar, enabling students to continue to study both the language and literature of ancient Rome. Students strengthen their translation skills by developing their understanding of grammar, and they refine their literary appreciation through analysis of a broad range of set texts taken from some of the finest literature. This experience of the linguistic, cultural, historical and political aspects of Roman civilization, which has inspired many later generations, can be extremely rewarding. There is a choice between studying the subject at either AS or A Level as they are taught together.

The Language paper forms 50% of the course and students are tested on their translation and comprehension skills. There is also the option to compose Latin, which can be a very satisfying past-time! The Literature component forms the remaining 50% of the course, involving the study of the works of Cicero, Virgil, Ovid and Apuleius.

Latin complements many other popular A Levels such as English, History, Modern Foreign Languages, Philosophy, Government and Politics, and Sociology. Lessons are relaxed and fun with typically small class sizes, which use the latest technology can offer.

AS/A LEVEL CLASSICAL CIVILISATION

The classical inspiration of the ancient world is all around us, from familiar Greek myths and legends to popular modern classics such as *Percy Jackson* and *The Hunger Games*. The classical inspiration provides an appreciation of the achievements and lasting legacy of a civilisation which has had such a profound influence, helping to shape today's democracy, theatre, literature, philosophy, art and architecture to name but a few.

Classical Civilisation allows students to study some of these areas in their original, classical context and is a combination of English, Drama, Religious Studies and History all rolled into one. It offers students the chance to read some of the best Greek myths, legends and plays, and also to study the Greek and Roman way of life, and to learn about its principal personalities, influential ideas and incredible achievements. Students do not need to know any Latin and will not be learning Latin. We follow the OCR syllabus, and take three components from The World of the Hero, Culture and the Arts, and Beliefs and Ideas:

The World of the Hero: Homer's *Odyssey* - the story of Odysseus getting home from the war at Troy, with his many adventures including close encounters with the Cyclopes, Sirens, Giants and Lotus-Eaters. Our hero is helped and delayed by an array of gods and goddesses with final victory over the 108 Suitors who are trying to marry his wife.

Culture & the Arts: Greek Theatre - Students read some of the best tragedies and comedies, (*Oedipus*, *Bacchae*, *Frogs*), and study the ancient theatre used by the Greeks to stage their dramas, examine depictions of this staging in Greek art and explore how these plays might have been staged. **Virgil's *Aeneid*** - This component appreciates Virgil's *Aeneid*, a cornerstone and landmark in Western literature of epic proportions. Drawing inspiration from Homer, as well as from his own cultural and political context, Virgil explored what it was to be a hero in the Roman world and created a work which has proven enduringly popular and profoundly influential.

Beliefs & Ideas: Greek Religion - Religion was an essential part of life for the Greeks, permeating all strata of society and all aspects of an individual's daily life. Politics and religion were intertwined to the extent that political decisions were sometimes made on the basis of divine oracular intervention. Students will learn about the Greek gods and how they interacted with this world; they will explore various temples and religious sanctuaries and how the Greeks worshipped these gods; and they will read about what Socrates and Plato had to say about these deities.

DEPARTMENTAL TRIPS

The department arranges a variety of outings, which have included Rome and the Bay of Naples, Athens, Fishbourne Palace, Bath, London lectures, and Theatre and Museum visits.



A LEVEL RESULTS 2019

GRADE	A*	A	B	A* - B
Classical Civilisation	1		1	100%
GRADE	A*	A	B	A*
Latin	1			100%