



## CLASSICAL CIVILISATION – A NEW COURSE FOR 2022

### Course Information

The course will introduce you to ancient Greek and Roman civilisations through the study of works of literature and focuses on three significant aspects of the classical world: socio-political, artistic, and literary. A variety of approaches will be adopted in the study of those areas and you will have to work through a number of primary sources and texts.

In the **'world of the hero'** component, for instance, you will read Greek and Roman epics: Homer's *The Odyssey* and Virgil's *The Aeneid*. These poems are considered by many scholars as the cornerstone and landmarks of Western literature. You will tackle literary aspects of both of these texts.

The **'beliefs and ideas'** component involves a critical study of three of the most powerful Greek tragedies and comedies composed in the ancient world (*Oedipus the King*, *Bacchae* and *Frogs*), which have had a profound and wide-reaching influence on modern literature. We will study these plays in their political, historical and artistic context, as well as looking at ancient theatres, vases and other Greek archaeological evidence of the time.

A synoptic element is introduced by discussing the religious, cultural and social values of both Greek and Roman civilisations. In the **'culture and the arts'** component we shall be looking at Greek Religion and analysing a number of the best known Greek beliefs and places of worship, as well as some of the most thought-provoking Greek philosophical ideas ever written.

There will be three examinations, externally assessed in Year 13. Each paper will consist of content and appreciation questions taken from the studied texts, as well as an essay from a choice of two. You will be expected to make use of secondary sources and academic views to support your argument.

### Entry Requirements

Minimum of grade 4 in English Language, English Literature and/or History at GCSE, with at least one of those being a 5 or higher. No prior experience needed but a genuine interest in literature and history is beneficial.

You do not need to have studied this subject before and do not need any knowledge of Greek or Latin.

### Career Pathway

Classical Civilisation is considered an 'approved' A-level by all the top universities and combines particularly well with all sorts of subjects from English, History and Art to Drama and Religious Studies.

Classics graduates are popular with employers because they have developed skills needed in a wide range of careers – skills like critical thinking and textual analysis, fluent expression in writing, and the ability to synthesise and compare data from diverse sources. Not to mention an appreciation of high culture!

Should you like to receive any additional information on this course then please contact Mr Ivan Woodward – Head of History or Miss Fran King – Teacher of English.