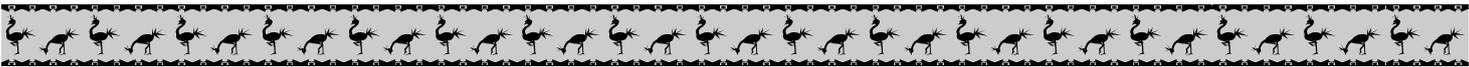




A Level Classical Civilisations



Course Content

Content Overview	Assessment Overview	
The world of the hero <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Homer's Iliad• Virgil's Aeneid	120 Marks 2 hour 20 minutes paper	40% of total A Level
Culture and the arts <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Imperial Image	75 Marks 1 hour 45 minutes paper	30% of total A Level
Beliefs and Ideas <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Politics of the Late Republic	75 Marks 1 hour 45 minutes paper	30% of total A Level



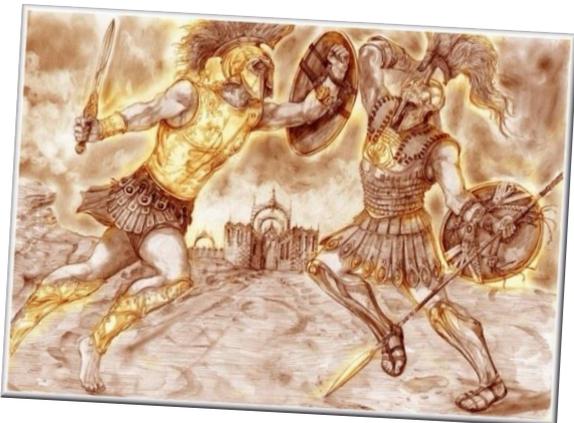
The world of the hero

The Iliad

Homer's *Iliad* tells the story of the darkest episode in the Trojan War. At its centre is Achilles, the greatest warrior-champion of the Greeks, and his refusal to fight after being humiliated by his leader Agamemnon. But when the Trojan Hector kills Achilles' close friend Patroclus, Achilles storms back into battle to take revenge - although knowing this will ensure his own early death. Interwoven with this tragic sequence of events are powerfully moving descriptions of the ebb and flow of battle, of the domestic world inside Troy's besieged city of Ilium, and of the conflicts between the Gods on Olympus as they argue over the fate of mortals.

The poems of Homer were considered by the Greeks themselves to be a foundation of Greek culture, standing as they do at the beginning of the Western literary canon. This module provides learners with the opportunity to appreciate the lasting legacy of these works and to explore their attitudes and values. The epics of Homer, with their heroes, gods and exciting narratives remain popular today.

This module also provides learners with the opportunity to appreciate Virgil's *Aeneid*, a cornerstone and landmark in Western literature. 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.



After a century of civil strife in Rome and Italy, Virgil wrote *The Aeneid* to honour the emperor Augustus by praising Aeneas - Augustus' legendary ancestor. As a patriotic epic imitating Homer, *The Aeneid* also set out to provide Rome with a literature equal to that of ancient Greece.

It tells of Aeneas, survivor of the sack of Troy, and of his seven-year journey - to Carthage, where he tragically fell in love with Queen Dido; then to the underworld, in the company of the Sybil of Cumae; and finally to Italy, where he founded Rome. It is a story of defeat and exile, of love and war...

Imperial Image

This module explores how political spin, so familiar in our current media, was used in the Ancient world. By learning about Augustus and a study of highly successful propaganda campaigns you are introduced to a topic that is both highly relevant and engaging.



Each of the topics in this module are based around key aspects of Augustus' public image and involve looking at him as a the son of Julius Caesar, a military commander (here the propaganda machine really had to work as he could often be found ill in a tent instead of leading), a religious leader, cultural icon (the new Saturn), and a moral guardian (his daughter proved to be somewhat problematic here). We also look at later representations of Augustus to see how long lasting the effect of his propaganda was.

This module also provides us with the opportunity to analyse various sources from the Ancient world, ranging from information from Augustus himself to critics of his values such as Ovid and later publications such as the work of Suetonius. This close analysis of literary and artistic sources gives us the opportunity to work with a variety of material, creating an engaging course of study.

Politics in the Late Republic



The Late Republic was a period of upheaval and conflicting views on how the Roman state should function. These conflicts eventually led to the downfall of the Republican *res publica* (state) and the rise of the Roman Emperors. In this module students will study the political thought of the period from Sulla's retirement in 79 BC to the death of Cicero in 43 BC, through examining Marcus Porcius Cato ('Cato the Younger'), Gaius Julius Caesar, and Marcus Tullius Cicero. Events we will cover include the rise of the First Triumvirate, the civil war and the murder of Julius

Caesar. We will learn about the topic through the letters and speeches of Cicero.

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/315133-specification-accredited-a-level-classical-civilisation-h4o8.pdf>

