



ST CHRISTOPHER'S SIXTH FORM
CLASSICAL CIVILISATION
BRIDGING UNIT

Classical Civilisation



Understanding the Ancient world involves studying the great civilisations of Greece and Rome. Whilst both have intrinsic historical differences, they share a common development in language, culture, archaeology and literature throughout the Ancient period.

In studying Classical Civilisation at St Christopher's, you will cover a wide aspect of both cultures and delve into the extensive literary record left by historians and philosophers from the age. You will begin to familiarise yourselves with the work of Homer, Virgil and the great Tragedians of Ancient Greece.

The aim of Classical Civilisation is to provide both a historical and literary account of the ancient period, analysing key concepts of both History and English. Your A Level modules are as follows:

- **The World of the Hero; the study of Homer's Iliad and Virgil's Aeneid** (worth 40% of your A-level)
- **Culture and the Arts: Greek Theatre** (worth 30% of your A-level)
- **Beliefs and Ideas: Democracy and the Athenians** (worth 30% of your A-level)

In order to prepare yourself for the beginning of the OCR course it is advisable to familiarise yourself with the World of Ancient and Classical Greece by accessing the specification [here](#). Furthermore, whilst you will be provided with a full reading list in September, but either of the following texts greatly assist the study of this course:

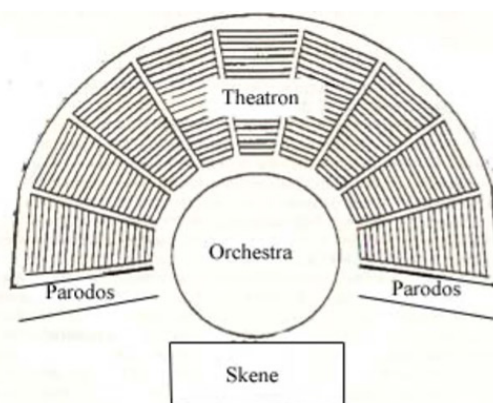
- Classical Epic: Homer and Virgil (Classical World Series), Richard Jenkyns (1998) ISBN: **9781853991332**
- Greek Tragedy: An introduction (Classical World Series), Laura Swift (2017) ISBN: **9781474236850**
- Democracy in Classical Athens (Classical World Series), Christopher Carey (2017) ISBN: **9781474286367**

Our exam board – OCR – recommends the following study books to accompany the course:

- OCR Classical Civilisation: The World of the Hero (2017) ISBN: **9781350015074**
- OCR Classical Civilisation: Greek Theatre and Imperial Image (2017) ISBN: **9781350015111**
- OCR Classical Civilisation: Greek Religion and Democracy and the Athenians (2017) ISBN: **9781350020933**

Further details from OCR can be found here:

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-and-a-level/classical-civilisation-h008-h408-from-2017/specification-at-a-glance/>



Parts of a Greek Theater

Preparation Tasks

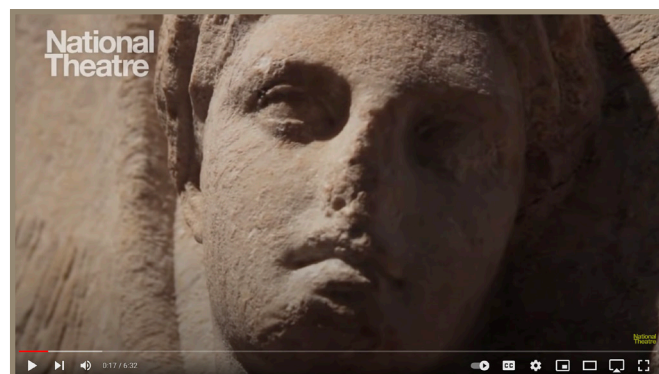
Watch at least one Classical Civilisation related programme:



Building the Ancient City: Athens and Rome

<https://youtu.be/VeIFkGje-Tw>

A BBC documentary on the building of Ancient Athens with Professor Andrew Wallace-Hadrill.



An Introduction to Greek Tragedy

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dSr6mP-zxUc>

Professor Edith Hall explaining various constructs of Greek Tragedy and its context.



The Iliad

<https://youtu.be/iGE9b9R31jM>

BBC 'In our time' an excellent podcast episode on The Iliad.



Who Was Virgil?

<https://youtu.be/Eeirl1uiqmM>

Professor Stephen Harrison discusses Virgil and the context of The Aeneid.



Why you should read Virgil's Aeneid'

<https://youtu.be/p4mbk59rbjE>

Perhaps the most gentle introduction to our Year 13 unit can also be found here with a brief TED-Ed lecture on 'Why you should read Virgil's Aeneid'.

Contact us

If you have any questions please feel free to email the Head of History & Classical Civilisation at j.waller@st-christophers.org



**“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord,
“plans to prosper you and not to harm you,
plans to give you hope and a future.”**

Jeremiah 29:11

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🌐 www.st-christophers.org/sixth-form

