

Advantages of Classical Civilisation

These qualifications are highly respected by universities and employers.



An A Level in Classical Civilisation partners well with any Humanities subject, but since the ancient Greeks originated the systematic study of Physics, Biology, Mathematics and Medicine, it complements the study of science just as well.



They can usually be taught by any teacher with a PGCE or equivalent teaching qualification. Many teachers of Classical Civilisation have a degree in History, English, Drama, Modern Languages, Religious Studies, or Philosophy, but some come from Science, Sport or Citizenship backgrounds.

Exam Boards

Qualifications in Classical Civilisation, Classical Greek & Roman Studies and Classical Studies are administered by OCR, the IB and SQA.

Project Partners



Qualifications in Classical Civilisation



What is Classical Civilisation?

93% of British teenagers attend state-sector secondary schools or sixth-form colleges, where access to knowledge about the ancient Greeks and Romans can be made available through the study of Classical Civilisation or Ancient History. These qualifications investigate the millennium between 800 BCE and 200 CE when some of the most important intellectual innovations in human history happened. This pivotal period of civilisation is approached through detailed analysis of English translations of the original works produced by classical authors in conjunction with visual material (ancient art, material objects, buildings, and inscriptions).

What Skills Do the Qualifications Confer?

- 1] Cultural Literacy: understanding the significance of key figures and events in world history and literature.
- 2] Source Evaluation: interrogating reliability and authority of evidence and propaganda.
- 3] Critical Comparison of Competing Authorities in a Complex Society.
- 4] Articulating Arguments: familiarity with great ancient speechmaking and persuasive communication.
- 5] Overview of Long-term Human History: the place of Classical Civilisation in Human Development.
- 6] Understanding of Competing Identities: national, European, cosmopolitan, ethnic, political, religious.
- 7] Interdisciplinary Skills: thinking about a whole civilisation in the round, both society and art.
- 8] Political Sophistication: approaching original development of ideas about democracy, republics, empire, citizenship, gender roles.

What is ACE?

ACE stands for Advocating Classics Education. We are an AHRC-funded project based at King's College London aiming to extend classical-subject qualifications across the secondary sector led by Professor Edith Hall and Dr Arlene Homes-Henderson. You can find out more at <http://aceclassics.org.uk/>.



Contacting Us

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How to Introduce Classical Civilisation



- Step 1: Contact ACE for more details.
- Step 2: Contact your nearest ACE partner institution to arrange a meeting
- Step 3: Contact Classics for All, a charity supporting all classical subjects in state schools, via <https://classicsforall.org.uk/>
- Step 4: Arrange a meeting with your school leaders
- Step 5: Visit a school in your region to observe and collaborate
- Step 6: Secure funding for training and resources
- Step 7: Decide on curricular structure and promote to students/parents
- Step 8: Participate in training and start teaching!