Advantages of Ancient History

Ancient History counts towards the EBacc, just like History. Student take-up for History increases where Ancient History is available.

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Every single source that appears in the exams has been seen by students in advance, discussed in class and annotated as the course is taught. No unseen sources ever appear in Ancient History exams.

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Employers value the study of the classical world, regarding it as demonstrating a wider appreciation of our cultural heritage.

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Since there is only one exam board, OCR, teachers have easy access directly to the course co-ordinators and examiners.

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An A Level in Ancient History 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.

Project Partners

Qualifications in Ancient History

What is Ancient History?

If you can teach History, you can teach Ancient History. Some of your students would love to choose GCSE History but not the history that is on offer in many state schools. Certain types of students crave studying the classical world of Greece and Rome: the art, architecture, characters, events and religions.

The period studied, between 800 BCE and 200 CE, was when some of the most important events and intellectual innovations of human history occurred. The courses are designed to be taught by History teachers who are not experts in the ancient world, with a step by step guide to the period and the literature.
How to Introduce Ancient History

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!

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/.

What Skills Do the Qualifications Confer?
1] Cultural Literacy: understanding the significance of key figures and events in world history and literature.
5] Overview of Long-term Human History: the place of Ancient History 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.

Contacting Us
email: ace@kcl.ac.uk
twitter: @ClassCivAncHist
write: Department of Classics
Kings College London
Strand, London WC2R 2LS