

ANCIENT HISTORY (OCR)

Subject specific entry requirements: English 6

General Content

The course has two aspects: Greek and Roman. The two will be studied concurrently starting with the Greek Period Study and the Roman Depth Study

	Period Study	Depth Study
Greek	Relations between Greek and non-Greek states 492-404BC Concentrating upon the Persian Wars and the Peloponnesian War.	The Politics and Culture of Athens 460-399BC – including art and architecture, theatre, philosophy and religion.
Roman	The Julio-Claudian Emperors 31BC to 68AD featuring Augustus, Tiberius, Caligula (Gaius), Claudius and Nero.	The Breakdown of the Late Republic 88-31BC looking at why Rome descended into Civil War under Sulla, Pompey, Caesar and Octavian



These modules offer students the chance to understand some of the most critical periods in History which are not only inherently interesting but have also proved extremely influential in the development of Western civilisation.



Skills

The skills required are similar to modern History: the understanding of cause and effect, and the nature of change but with a great emphasis on source evaluation. Comprehension of books and articles, fluent expression in writing, and the ability to argue effectively using evidence to prove points are vital.

Methods of Assessment

The assessment system will consist of two examinations (one for each of the two modules).

Key Features of Study

The History Department has its own suite of rooms, one which is a specifically Sixth Form Centre with a seminar area for teaching, a History library and facilities for private study exclusive to Historians.

Aptitudes required

Historians must be willing and able to read books, magazines and articles, and to write clearly and logically. Classes involve discussion, debate and questioning in a seminar-style approach, as the exchange and explanation ideas is important to developing historical awareness. Historians should also possess a love of learning for its own sake.

Work-load and types of work

Ancient History is about closely studying the ancient texts (English translations) and students will be expected to read these and arrive at their own conclusions on a range of historical issues. These will be developed and debated in class in seminar style sessions. Students will also be directed towards appropriate secondary texts which they will be expected to read in order to build on their knowledge and attain a wider understanding of events.

Career Connections

Historians have to read, examine evidence, evaluate sources, understand different viewpoints and reach firm but objective conclusions based on solid evidence. Apart from careers obviously specific to History, these attributes are valuable for management, the Civil Service, law, accountancy, or any profession where

it is necessary to sift and analyse facts, weigh up their significance and develop arguments. It can be studied at university on its own or in combination with a number of subjects, is valuable background for degrees in Politics, Economics and English, and is ideal preparation for a degree and career in Law.



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