

A Level Classical Civilisations Summer Preparation Tasks

The course has 3 examined components - The World of the Hero, Greek Theatre and Greek religion. Our exam board is OCR.

This course will be new to many, if not all of you. This summer work is designed to give you a sense of the period, and to familiarise yourself with the Ancient world, so that when you start the course in September you have a frame from which to hang the rest of your knowledge. Please engage with this fully; the better prepared you are for September, the more you will get out of the course.

Please choose **at least 5** of the resources from the list below to read/watch/listen to. You should keep a log book of everything that you have accessed. Your log book should include the following information for each resource you use, but you can choose to present this in any way you like.

Name of resource	
Date accessed	
Review of resource	
What have you learnt about the ancient world?	

Books - Fiction and non-fiction

Margaret Atwood *The Penelopiad*

Natalie Haynes *A Thousand Ships*

Natalie Haynes *The Children of Jocasta*

Natalie Haynes *Pandora's Jar*

Pat Barker *The Silence of the Girls*

Madeleine Miller *The Song of Achilles*

Madeleine Miller *Circe*

Colm Toibin *House of Names*

Robert Harris *The Cicero Trilogy*

Lindsey Davis *The Silver Pigs*

Stephen Fry *Mythos*

Stephen Fry *Heroes*

Mary Beard *SPQR*

Mary Beard *Pompeii*

Podcasts

Natalie Haynes Stands Up for the Classics - You can listen to any of these but I would recommend the following episodes:

- Homer: The Iliad
- Euripides
- Sophocles
- Aristophanes
- Virgil
- Clytemnestra
- Jocasta
- Penelope
- Helen of Troy
- Penthesilea, Amazon Warrior Queen
- Aristotle

That's Ancient History with Jean Menzies

The Rest is History - any of the following episodes:

- The World Cup of Gods Pt 1 and 2
- Persia
- Pompeii
- Stephen Fry and Troy
- Troy

You're Dead to Me - any of the following episodes:

- The Battle of Salamis
- Ancient Greek and Roman medicine
- The Ancient Babylonians
- Agrippina the Younger
- The Ancient Olympics
- Justinian and Theodora
- The Spartans

Television/Film - Please be aware that many of these contain great historical inaccuracies, but they are good for a flavour of the period. You should do some research into what these historical inaccuracies are.

Jason and the Argonauts (1963)

Hercules (1997 Disney version)

Troy (2004)

Gladiator (2000)

Monty Python's Life of Brian (1979)

The Odyssey (1997)

Feel free to explore beyond this list and add it to your log book. Your final log book should demonstrate commitment to exploring the subject outside of the classroom.