

St John's Curriculum Overview – Year 13

Subject title	Classical Civilisation
Setting arrangements	Mixed prior attainment.
Time allowance each fortnight	9 hours

Introduction

Classical Civilisation is a subject which can be chosen at A-level with no previous knowledge of the subject. We follow the OCR Specification, which has 3 exams at the end of the 2 year course. In year 1 we study half of the World of the Hero module (the Odyssey) and we study Greek Theatre. In year 2, we complete the World of the Hero module (the Aeneid) and the Beliefs (Love and Relationships) module. This is the first time teaching the Beliefs module, so the scheme of work is a work in progress and likely to change!

Topics, Skills and Assessment covered during the course

Term Topic	Subject Specific topic Questions	Subject content	Assessment details
Term 1 World of the Hero - Aeneid	<p>How does a Roman hero compare to a Homeric hero? How does Aeneas follow or deviate away from the norms of heroism?</p> <p>What is pietas and how does Aeneas uphold it?</p> <p>What is furor and what affect can it have?</p> <p>What are the literary techniques that Virgil uses?</p> <p>How are men, women and gods represented?</p> <p>How is war represented?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Aeneid books 1-3. • Analyse literary techniques that Virgil uses and the effect that they have. • Explore key themes and characters. • Be able to put events into context. • Compare key events and characters from the Odyssey to the Aeneid. • Explore the historical background that influenced the Aeneid and Virgil's style of writing. 	<p>FORMAL: 1x long essay question – thematic or character</p> <p>FORMAL: 1x shorter question (context or mini-essay).</p> <p>Informal: Regular q&a</p>

<p>Term 1 Beliefs and Ideals: Love and Relationships</p>	<p>What are the ideal qualities of men and women in ancient Greece? What was the status of men and women domestically, civically and legally? What makes a good marriage? What are the joys and benefits of marriage? What sexual freedom did men and women have? What were ancient Greek attitudes towards adultery? What constituted 'good' and 'bad' conduct in a relationship?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore what the Greeks believed the characteristics of an "ideal" man and woman were. • Discuss what the reality of what life was like for Greek men and women. • Explore Greek marriages, sexual relationships and adultery. 	<p>FORMAL: 1x long essay question – thematic or character FORMAL: 1x shorter question (context or mini-essay). Informal: Regular q&a</p>
<p>Term 2 World of the Hero - Aeneid</p>	<p>How does Aeneas follow or deviate away from the norms of heroism? What is pietas and how does Aeneas uphold it? What is furor and what affect can it have? What are the literary techniques that Virgil uses? How are men, women and gods represented? What do you think of the way Aeneas treats Dido? What do you think of Dido's character? How is the Underworld represented? How are Augustan Ideals represented?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Aeneid books 4-6. • Analyse literary techniques that Virgil uses and the effect that they have. • Explore key themes and characters. • Be able to put events into context. • Compare key events and characters from the Odyssey to the Aeneid. Explore the historical background that influenced the Aeneid and Virgil's style of writing. 	<p>FORMAL: 1x long essay question – thematic or character FORMAL: 1x shorter question (context or mini-essay). Informal: Regular q&a</p>

<p>Term 2 Love and Relationships</p>	<p>What were Plato's views on love and relationships? What was his definition of love and what did he say were the physical symptoms of desire? What were the differences between love and desire? How and why did Plato think desire should be controlled and resisted? How did Plato's opinions compare with those of other contemporary Greeks?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare societal norms to what Plato (Greek philosopher) idealised men and women to be like and how to behave in their relationships. 	<p>FORMAL: 1x long essay question – thematic or character FORMAL: 1x shorter question (context or mini-essay). Informal: Regular q&a</p>
<p>Term 3 World of the Hero - Aeneid</p>	<p>How does Aeneas follow or deviate away from the norms of heroism? What is pietas and how does Aeneas uphold it? What is furor and what affect can it have? What are the literary techniques that Virgil uses? How are men, women and gods represented? How is war represented? How are Augustan Ideals represented?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Aeneid books 7-9. • Analyse literary techniques that Virgil uses and the effect that they have. • Explore key themes and characters. • Be able to put events into context. • Compare key events and characters from the Odyssey to the Aeneid. Explore the historical background that influenced the Aeneid and Virgil's style of writing. 	<p>FORMAL: 1x Mock exam FORMAL: 1x long essay question – thematic or character FORMAL: 1x shorter question (context or mini-essay). Informal: Regular q&a</p>
<p>Term 3 Love and Relationships</p>	<p>What was the influence of Stoicism on Seneca's ideas? What were Seneca's views on love and relationships? What was his definition of love and what did he say were the physical symptoms of desire? What were the differences between love and desire? How and why did Plato think desire should be controlled and resisted? How did Seneca's opinions compare with those of other contemporary Greeks?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore what Stoicism was • Compare societal norms to what Seneca (Roman philosopher) idealised men and women to be like and how to behave in their relationships. 	<p>FORMAL: 1x Mock exam FORMAL: 1x long essay question – thematic or character FORMAL: 1x shorter question (context or mini-essay). Informal: Regular q&a</p>

<p>Term 4 World of the Hero - Aeneid</p>	<p>How does Aeneas follow or deviate away from the norms of heroism? What is pietas and how does Aeneas uphold it? What is furor and what affect can it have? What are the literary techniques that Virgil uses? How are men, women and gods represented? How is war represented? What do you think of the ending of the Aeneid? How are Augustan Ideals represented?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Aeneid books 10-12. • Analyse literary techniques that Virgil uses and the effect that they have. • Explore key themes and characters. • Be able to put events into context. • Compare key events and characters from the Odyssey to the Aeneid. Explore the historical background that influenced the Aeneid and Virgil's style of writing. 	<p>FORMAL: 1x long essay question – thematic or character FORMAL: 1x shorter question (context or mini-essay). Informal: Regular q&a</p>
<p>Term 4 Love and Relationships</p>	<p>Who was Sappho? What was the importance of Lesbos? What influenced Sappho socially and poetically? How does Sappho represent love and desire, men and women, sex, marriage, society and values? What does she say in her poems?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore who Sappho was and her role as a Greek poet. • Read Sappho's love poetry • Analyse literary techniques that Sappho uses and the effect that they have. • Explore key themes linked to love and relationships. 	<p>FORMAL: 1x long essay question – thematic or character FORMAL: 1x shorter question (context or mini-essay). Informal: Regular q&a</p>
<p>Term 5 World of the Hero - Aeneid</p>	<p>Which epic do you prefer? Which hero is better? How is revenge and justice presented? Whom do you feel more sympathy for? Who is the better storyteller; Homer or Virgil?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revision of both Odyssey and Aeneid modules. • Comparison of different heroic codes and how each hero applies himself to this, • Compare the roles of the gods, men, women and slaves • Look at key themes and assess how they are presented in each epic. • Consider which epic they prefer. 	<p>As many practise papers as possible - under timed conditions as well as in own time.</p>

Term 5 Love and Relationships	Who was Ovid? Who did he write for and what was the purpose behind his texts? What influenced Ovid socially and poetically? How does Ovid represent love and desire, men and women, sex, marriage, society and values? What does he say in his poems?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore who Ovid was and his role as a Roman poet. • Read Ovid's love poetry • Analyse literary techniques that Ovid uses and the effect that they have. • Explore key themes linked to love and relationships. 	As many practise papers as possible - under timed conditions as well as in own time.
Term 6	N/A – Study Leave	N/A – Study Leave	N/A – Study Leave

Resources Recommended for Revision and where they are available:

- David West's translation of the Aeneid (provided by school) – introductory notes
- Yorknotes – revision guide, available on amazon, or in all good bookstores
- Online revision – Sparknotes, shmoop, litcharts
- Bibliography – handed out in the first week with introductory notes
- Massolit videos – we currently have a subscription in school, but free access on youtube to a limited number of videos

Additional support and help for the course

Extra-Curricular:

- Year 12/13 trip to Greece
- Theatre trips (when on, and where applicable)
- Lectures (when on, and where applicable)

Homework

Homework will usually be set every lesson, or at least once a week per module. Homework amount takes into account private study periods that students have. A minimum of 2 hours would be expected for the students to spend on homework per module (World of the Hero/Beliefs and Ideas) each week. Usual activities will include reading preparation in advance of next lesson, questions on the reading, character and theme analysis.