

## Classical Civilisation A Level Bridging work

For anybody wishing to take Classical Civilisation at A-level in September, I recommend the following in order to boost your knowledge of the Ancient World and prepare yourself for A-level.

### **Mandatory activities:**

#### **The Open University – Courses**

In September, you will start with The Odyssey and Greek Religion. Please complete these two Open University courses, and send me a copy of your statement of participation:

##### **1. The Odyssey**

[https://www.open.edu/openlearn/history-the-arts/exploring-homers-odyssey/?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTAAR2h0ybVCut2s1D-bl\\_AQQZPIF6nmUcz7Jx1LTATlecZ1TarJDyevkd\\_Sa4\\_aem\\_il51Kd\\_3BhiPEBsFnJgovQ&active-tab=description-tab](https://www.open.edu/openlearn/history-the-arts/exploring-homers-odyssey/?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTAAR2h0ybVCut2s1D-bl_AQQZPIF6nmUcz7Jx1LTATlecZ1TarJDyevkd_Sa4_aem_il51Kd_3BhiPEBsFnJgovQ&active-tab=description-tab)

##### **2. Exploring Ancient Greek Religion**

<https://www.open.edu/openlearn/history-the-arts/exploring-ancient-greek-religion/content-section-0?active-tab=description-tab>

### **Optional activities:**

In Year 13 we will study Virgil's *Aeneid*. The Open University are running an introductory course for free which takes approximately 7 hours. <https://www.open.edu/openlearn/history-the-arts/introducing-virgils-aeneid/content-section-0?active-tab=description-tab>

They are also running a free introductory course on the Classical World. This course will be very useful if you have not studied Classics at GCSE. <https://www.open.edu/openlearn/history-the-arts/classical-studies/introducing-the-classical-world/content-section-0?active-tab=description-tab>

### **Academic Reading**

If you have access to the following books or the means to purchase them, I highly recommend that you read the following -

Beard, M. (2016) *SPQR: A History of Ancient Rome*, Profile Books

Fry, S (2017) *Mythos*, Penguin\*

Fry, S. (2018) *Heroes*, Penguin

\*All Year 12 students are required to read *Mythos* when they begin the course; I recommend that you begin over the summer.

#### **The Open University – Courses**

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They are also running a free introductory course on the Classical World. This course will be very useful if you have not studied Classics at GCSE. <https://www.open.edu/openlearn/history-the-arts/classical-studies/introducing-the-classical-world/content-section-0?active-tab=description-tab>

### **Documentaries**

The following documentaries can be watched on YouTube. As you watch them, complete a set of notes (these can be bullet points, spider diagrams or mindmaps). Again, these documentaries will boost your knowledge of the Classical World and engage with academics.

### **Prof Mary Beard – Ultimate Rome**

Episode 1 - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LL\\_acQHNS-o](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LL_acQHNS-o)

Episode 2 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=urJbBsdvjKU>

Episode 3 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5alrhQKGOjg>

Episode 4 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZvBgghnYyiR4>

### **Prof Mary Beard – Meet the Romans**

Episode 1 - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rggk\\_H3jEgw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rggk_H3jEgw)

Episode 2 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9JFw8M4PBUl>

### **Prof Michel Scott – Delphi**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wBnOs8GmYHk>

### **Prof Andrew Wallace-Hadrill – Ancient Cities**

Athens - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SNqOOOiGgcY>

Rome - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hdYRgiLurTs>

Ted Ed also do excellent short clips on famous Greek and Roman myths -

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gjj\\_-CPxjCM&list=PLIcmE8fK0EjW2AVwcSc4NvGyJJaw7bzh](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gjj_-CPxjCM&list=PLIcmE8fK0EjW2AVwcSc4NvGyJJaw7bzh)

If you have access to Amazon Prime you can watch the following for free -

The Great Greek Myths Seasons 1 & 2 - <https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/B07PN7MNLW>

### **Lighter Reads – Fiction about the Classical World**

There are thousands of fiction books about the Classical World and listed below are some of my favourites. If you have the means to buy them, I highly recommend you do. Alternatively, when you return to school in September they are all available on the bookcase in the Humanities Pod.

Madeline Miller – *The Song of Achilles*

Madeline Miller – *Circe*

Pat Barker – *The Silence of the Girls*

Natalie Haynes – *A Thousand Ships*

Margaret Atwood – *The Penelopiad*