

# NEW A Level Classical Civilisation

## H041 and H441, replacing 3816 and 7816:

Information for OCR centres transferring to the **new specifications for first teaching in 2008**

This document maps the current A Level Classical Civilisation specifications to the new specifications for first teaching in September 2008. It includes information on the changes, support available and an outline of the new specifications. It is intended to help ease the transition for Heads of Department and Teachers involved in the teaching of Classical Civilisation.

The full specifications are available online along with a short questionnaire enabling you to share your comments on these specifications and help shape the materials developed to support it. For more information including answers to frequently asked questions visit

[www.ocr.org.uk/14-19alevels](http://www.ocr.org.uk/14-19alevels)

**Current specification – mapping the changes pages 2-5**

**Outline specification for first teaching September 2008 page 6-7**

### QCA have stipulated that:

- The number of units required to achieve GCE A level Classical Civilisation is to be reduced from 6 to 4
- All coursework to be removed from Classical Civilization
- Stretch and Challenge style questions to be introduced into A2 assessment



# Mapping the changes to the A Level Classical Civilisation specification for first teaching September 2008

**H041 and H441, replacing 3817 and 7817.**



Candidates must complete six units; four mandatory units and two optional units.

Existing specification					
Current unit title	Unit code	What remains the same?	What is changing?	Why is it changing?	Guidance
AS	<b>Greek Epic</b> 2736 Mandatory 33.3% AS 16.7% A Level 1.5 hr exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>The Odyssey</i> remains as a set text.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The approach is now a focus on studying texts in social, historical and literary contexts.</li> <li>Note: Roman Epic (Unit 2737) has moved to A2 study.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The more holistic approach to studying texts is a new QCA subject requirement.</li> <li>QCA now has a new definition of synopticity.</li> <li>The reduction of six to four units, therefore the weighting of each unit has changed to 25% of each A Level and 50% of each AS Level.</li> <li>All assessment is now examined. This is in response to QCA's decision to end coursework.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Specimen assessment materials are available online on the OCR website.</li> <li>Recommended reading lists are available.</li> <li>e-community on the OCR website.</li> </ul>
	<b>Roman Epic</b> 2737 Mandatory 33.3% AS 16.7% A Level 1.5 hr exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A selection of five books of <i>The Iliad</i> remain as the set text.</li> </ul>			
A2	<b>Greek and Roman Epic</b> 2749 Mandatory 16.7% A Level 1.5 hr exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>The Aeneid</i> remains as a set text with selected books of <i>The Iliad</i>.</li> </ul>			
AS	<b>Greek Historians</b> 2738 Mandatory 33.3% AS 16.7% A Level 1.5 hr exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Herodotus</li> <li>Thucydides</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Addition of Plutarch's Lives.</li> </ul>		
	<b>Roman Historians</b> 2739 Mandatory 33.3% AS 16.7% A Level 1.5 hr exam		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Note: these units have now gone but see unit above.</li> </ul>		
A2	<b>Greek and Roman Historians</b> 2750 Mandatory 16.7% A Level 1.5 hr exam				

Candidates must complete six units; four mandatory units and two optional units.

Existing specification									
Current unit title	Unit code	What remains the same?	What is changing?	Why is it changing?	Guidance				
AS	<b>Greek Tragedy 1</b>	<b>2740</b> Mandatory 33.3% AS 16.7% A Level 1.5 hr exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plays by Sophocles, Aeschylus and Euripides.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are fewer plays to be studied overall (four rather than six).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The more holistic approach to studying texts is a new QCA subject requirement.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Specimen assessment materials are available online on the OCR website.</li> </ul>			
	<b>Greek Tragedy 2</b>	<b>2741</b> Mandatory 33.3% AS 16.7% A Level 1.5 hr exam							
A2	<b>Greek Tragedy 3</b>	<b>2751</b> Mandatory 16.7% A Level 1.5 hr exam					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is a reduction in text prescription.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>QCA now has a new definition of synopticity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommended reading lists are available.</li> </ul>
	<b>Roman Satire and Society 1</b>	<b>2742</b> Mandatory 33.3% AS 16.7% A Level 1.5 hr exam							
AS	<b>Roman Satire and Society 2</b>	<b>2743</b> Mandatory 33.3% AS 16.7% A Level 1.5 hr exam							
	<b>Roman Satire and Society 3</b>	<b>2752</b> Mandatory 16.7% A Level 1.5 hr exam							

Candidates must complete six units; four mandatory units and two optional units.

Existing specification							
Current unit title	Unit code	What remains the same?	What is changing?	Why is it changing?	Guidance		
AS	<b>Archaeology 1</b> Mandatory 33.3% AS 16.7% A Level 1.5 hr exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A focus on Mycenaean sites on mainland Greece, as well as the principles and practices of archaeological methodology.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No overall change but prescribed material provides teachers with a list of sites, material evidence, etc. to be studied.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The more holistic approach to studying texts is a new QCA subject requirement.</li> <li>QCA now has a new definition of synopticity.</li> <li>The reduction of six to four units, therefore the weighting of each unit has changed to 25% of each A Level and 50% of each AS Level.</li> <li>All assessment is now examined. This is in response to QCA's decision to end coursework.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Specimen assessment materials are available online on the OCR website.</li> <li>Recommended reading lists are available.</li> <li>e-community on the OCR website.</li> </ul>		
	<b>Archaeology 2</b> Mandatory 33.3% AS 16.7% A Level 1.5 hr exam						
A2	<b>Archaeology 3</b> Mandatory 16.7% A Level 1.5 hr exam						
AS	<b>Greek Comedy 1</b> Mandatory 33.3% AS 16.7% A Level 1.5 hr exam					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plays by Aristophanes and Menander.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Addition of plays by Plautus.</li> <li>Note: this is now an A2 unit.</li> </ul>
A2	<b>Greek Comedy 2</b> Mandatory 16.7% A Level 1.5 hr exam						
AS	<b>Greek Art and Architecture 1</b> Mandatory 33.3% AS 16.7% A Level 1.5 hr exam					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sculpture, vase painting and architecture.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A reduction in the quantity of material to be studied.</li> <li>Prescribed material provides teachers with a list of sites, material evidence, etc. to be studied.</li> </ul>
A2	<b>Greek Art and Architecture 2</b> Mandatory 16.7% A Level 1.5 hr exam						

Candidates must complete six units; four mandatory units and two optional units.

Existing specification					
Current unit title	Unit code	What remains the same?	What is changing?	Why is it changing?	Guidance
AS	<b>Roman Britain 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tacticus and Caesar.</li> <li>The study of archaeological sources.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A broader range of literary and archaeological sources are covered.</li> <li>Prescribed material provides teachers with a list of sites, material evidence, etc. to be studied.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The more holistic approach to studying texts is a new QCA subject requirement.</li> <li>QCA now has a new definition of synopticity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Specimen assessment materials are available online on the OCR website.</li> <li>Recommended reading lists are available.</li> <li>e-community on the OCR website.</li> </ul>
	<b>Roman Britain 2</b>				
AS	<b>Individual Study: Classical Civilisation (AS)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>These units have gone.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All assessment is now examined. This is in response to QCA's decision to end coursework.</li> </ul>		
A2	<b>Individual Study: Classical Civilisation (A2)</b>				

	<b>New unit title</b>	<b>New unit code</b>	<b>Benefits to me and my learners</b>	<b>Support</b>
<b>AS</b>	<b>Archaeology: Mycenae and the classical world</b>	<b>CC1 (F381)</b> Mandatory 50% AS 25% A Level 1.5hr exam	Mycenaean archaeology, art and architecture.  Principles and practices of archaeological methodology.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specimen assessment materials.</li> <li>• Recommended reading lists.</li> <li>• e-community on the OCR website.</li> </ul>
<b>AS</b>	<b>Homer's Odyssey and Society</b>	<b>CC2 (F382)</b> Mandatory 50% AS 25% A Level 1.5hr exam	Homer's Odyssey and the society and values it represents.	
<b>AS</b>	<b>Roman Society and Thought</b>	<b>CC3 (F383)</b> Mandatory 50% AS 25% A Level 1.5hr exam	Roman society and history through a study of Roman literature (Pliny's Letters and examples of satire from Horace, Petronius and Juvenal).	
<b>AS</b>	<b>Greek Tragedy and its context</b>	<b>CC4 (F384)</b> Mandatory 50% AS 25% A Level 1.5hr exam	The works of Aeschylus, Sophocles and Euripides, as works of literature and as social documents.	
<b>AS</b>	<b>Greek Historians</b>	<b>CC5 (F385)</b> Mandatory 50% AS 25% A Level 1.5hr exam	Historical texts by Thucydides, Herodotus and Plutarch.	
<b>AS</b>	<b>City Life in Roman Italy</b>	<b>CC6 (F386)</b> Mandatory 50% AS 25% A Level 1.5hr exam	The cities of Pompeii, Herculaneum and Ostia in their social, cultural, political and historical contexts.	

Candidates must complete four units; two AS units and two A2 units.



	New unit title	New unit code	Benefits to me and my learners	Support
A2	<b>Roman Britain: life in the outpost of the Empire</b>	<b>CC7 (F387)</b> Mandatory 25% A Level 2hr exam	Romano-British society and history as depicted in the literary and archaeological record.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specimen assessment materials.</li> <li>• Recommended reading lists.</li> <li>• e-community on the OCR website.</li> </ul>
A2	<b>Art and Architecture in the Greek World</b>	<b>CC8 (F388)</b> Mandatory 25% A Level 2hr exam	The sculpture, vase painting and architecture of the classical Greek world.	
A2	<b>Comic Drama in the Ancient World</b>	<b>CC9 (F389)</b> Mandatory 25% A Level 2hr exam	The works of Aristophanes, Menander and Plautus in their historical, literary and cultural contexts.	
A2	<b>Virgil and the world of the hero</b>	<b>CC10 (390)</b> Mandatory 25% A Level 2hr exam	Virgil's Epic, the Aeneid in its literacy and cultural context.  Parts of Homer's Iliad.	

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