



STUDY SUMMARY

Classical Societies and Cultures 2000–2009

The accreditation period has been extended until 31 December 2009.

Rationale

Classical Greece and Rome have greatly influenced Western society and culture. This study introduces students to universal ideas, issues and values that are at the core of humanity, as well as providing insight into the development of cultural forms such as epic, drama, philosophy, and satire. By exploring the political and social structures of Greece and Rome students are able to reflect on the values and origins of modern society and discuss ideas such as citizenship and democracy.

Structure

This study is made up of four units:

Unit 1: Myths and legends

Unit 2: Emerging societies

Unit 3: Classical culture

Unit 4: The classical heritage

Unit 1

This unit focuses on the form and function of myths and legends and the way they are represented. Students develop an understanding of the universality of human experience.

Unit 2

This unit explores the emergence of classical societies and their cultures from mythological to historical explanations of their world.

Unit 3

This unit explores the ancient societies of fifth and fourth century Athens and/or Rome in the first and second centuries, which are called 'classical'. It investigates the ideas, issues and values of those classical societies as expressed in a variety of cultural forms.

Unit 4

This unit explores the way in which classical cultures are reference points for later ages to aspire to or react against. It also encourages students to see these societies as dynamic periods of transition and to look for links to changes and developments in contemporary Western society.

Entry

There are no prerequisites for entry to Units 1, 2 and 3. Students must undertake Unit 3 prior to undertaking Unit 4.

Assessment**Satisfactory Completion**

Demonstrated achievement of the outcomes

Levels of Achievement***Units 1 and 2***

Individual school decision.

Units 3 and 4

School-assessed coursework and an end-of-year examination

- Unit 3 School-assessed Coursework: 25 per cent
- Unit 4 School-assessed Coursework: 25 per cent
- End-of-year examination: 50 per cent