



ANCIENT HISTORY

General Senior Subject

Ancient History provides opportunities for students to study people, societies and civilisations of the past, from the development of the earliest human communities to the end of the Middle Ages. Students explore the interaction of societies, and the impact of individuals and groups on ancient events and ways of life, and study the development of some features of modern society, such as social organisation, systems of law, governance and religion.

Students analyse and interpret archaeological and written evidence. They develop increasingly sophisticated skills and understandings of historical issues and problems by interrogating the surviving evidence of ancient sites, societies, individuals and significant historical periods. They investigate the problematic nature of evidence, pose increasingly complex questions about the past and formulate reasoned responses.

Students gain multi-disciplinary skills in analysing textual and visual sources, constructing arguments, challenging assumptions, and thinking both creatively and critically.

Pathways

A course of study in Ancient History can establish a basis for further education and employment in the fields of archaeology, history, education, psychology, sociology, law, business, economics, politics, journalism, the media, health and social sciences, writing, academia and research.

Objectives

By the conclusion of the course of study, students will:

- comprehend terms, issues and concepts
- devise historical questions and conduct research
- analyse historical sources and evidence
- synthesise information from historical sources and evidence
- evaluate historical interpretations
- create responses that communicate meaning.

Structure

Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3	Unit 4
Investigating the ancient world <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digging up the past • Ancient societies — Beliefs, rituals and funerary practices. 	Personalities in their time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perikles • Hannibal Barca 	Reconstructing the ancient world <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Philip II and Alexander III of Macedon • The Medieval Crusades 	People, power and authority Schools choose one study of power from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ancient Greece — the Persian Wars • Ancient Rome — Civil War and the breakdown of the Republic QCAA will nominate one topic that will be the basis for an external examination from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thutmose III • Rameses II • Themistokles • Alkibiades • Scipio Africanus • Caesar • Augustus

Assessment

Schools devise assessments in Units 1 and 2 to suit their local context.

In Units 3 and 4 students complete four summative assessments. The results from each of the assessments are added together to provide a subject score out of 100. Students will also receive an overall subject result (A–E).

Formative assessments

Unit 1		Unit 2	
Formative internal assessment 1 (FA1): Investigation — historical essay based on research	25%	Formative internal assessment 3 (FA3): Examination — essay in response to historical sources	25%
Formative internal assessment 2 (FA2): Independent source investigation	25%	Formative internal assessment (FA4): Investigation — historical essay based on research	25%

Summative assessments

Unit 3		Unit 4	
Summative internal assessment 1 (IA1): Examination — essay in response to historical sources	25%	Summative internal assessment 3 (IA3): Investigation — historical essay based on research	25%
Summative internal assessment 2 (IA2): Independent source investigation	25%	Summative external assessment (EA): Examination — short responses to historical sources	25%

Pre-requisites

It is recommended that a student achieved at least a 'C' in English & History or Geography.