

# Classical Studies

## Units 1-2

Classical Studies involves an examination of Ancient Greece mainly focused on the 5th Century BCE and/ or Ancient Rome mainly focused on the late Republic and the Empire from the Julio-Claudian dynasty to Constantine. The subject is interdisciplinary and involves the study of works of literature, history, philosophy, art and architecture.

### UNIT 1

Students examine the myths that underlie Ancient Greece and Rome and how this reflects social attitudes, values and beliefs. They consider the links between myth and history through a brief study of archaeology, and they consider how myths were expressed in many different areas of life.

### UNIT 2

This unit allows students to investigate the move from myth to history as reflected in Ancient Greek and/or Roman works such as literature, speeches, architecture or art. Students consider how writers, philosophers, historians, politicians, artists and architects utilised a range of literary or design techniques to shape their works to reflect and critique the social and cultural setting in which they lived.

In these units, teachers select the classical works and secondary sources to be used by the students.

### KEY SKILLS REQUIRED

Use of concepts relevant to the selected historical context, analysis of written and visual materials, synthesising evidence to draw conclusions, research skills and essay writing skills.

### ASSESSED TASKS

Oral presentations, research reports, close reading analyses, essays, short-answer questions, examinations at the end of each semester.

## Units 3-4

Classical Studies assists students to understand the universality of human experience and the origin of the culture that now defines the Western World. By engaging with a variety of texts, sculpture and architecture students develop an understanding of the ideas explored in classical works, comparing them to discover how different writers and artists portray and develop those universal ideas. Units 3 and 4 have identical areas of study and outcomes but students study different works for each unit.

### UNIT 3

Students engage with the intellectual and material culture of Classical Greece and/or Rome. They examine a range of prescribed texts including epic poetry, dramatic plays, comedies, architectural works and sculptural works. Students explore an individual work and a pair of comparative works, evaluating the techniques used to present ideas and values of ancient Greece or Rome. The socio-historical context of the works is also investigated.

### UNIT 4

As with Unit 3, students will engage with the intellectual and material culture of Classical Greece. Students examine a range of prescribed texts that are different from those in Unit 3.

### KEY SKILLS REQUIRED

Analysis, close reading, summarising, researching, evaluation and synthesis.

### ASSESSED TASKS

Oral presentations, research reports, close reading analyses, essays, short-answer questions, final examination.

**VCAA ASSESSMENT** – The overall Study Score will consist of:

School Assessed Coursework Unit 3 (50%), School Assessed Coursework Unit 4 (50%), and a 2 hour written examination in November (50%).