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

Ancient History is a General subject suited to students who are interested in pathways beyond school that lead to tertiary studies, vocational education or work. 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. The skills developed in Ancient History can be used in students’ everyday lives — including their work — when they need to understand situations, place them in perspective, identify causes and consequences, acknowledge the viewpoints of others, develop personal values, make judgments and reflect on their decisions.

Objectives

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

• comprehend terms, concepts and issues
• devise historical questions and conduct research
• analyse evidence from historical sources to show understanding
• synthesise evidence from historical sources to form a historical argument
• evaluate evidence from historical sources to make judgments
• create responses that communicate meaning to suit purpose.

Assumed knowledge, prior learning or experience

Before studying Ancient History, it is assumed students have studied the Australian Curriculum: 7–10 History. Through this prior learning, it is assumed students understand and can apply historical concepts, including evidence, continuity and change, cause and effect, significance, perspectives, empathy, and contestability.

It is also assumed students understand and can apply historical skills, including chronology, terms and concepts; historical questions and research; analysis and use of sources; perspectives and interpretations; and explanation and communication.

Recommendations for Success

It is recommended that a student has achieved a B in Year 10 English and History due to the literacy demands of the subject.
Structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit 1</th>
<th>Unit 2</th>
<th>Unit 3</th>
<th>Unit 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Investigating the ancient world</td>
<td>Personalities in their time</td>
<td>Reconstructing the ancient world</td>
<td>People, power and authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Digging up the past</td>
<td>• Hatshepsut</td>
<td>• Assyria from Tiglath Pileser III to the fall of the Empire</td>
<td>• Ancient Rome — Civil War and the breakdown of the Republic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Ancient societies — Beliefs, rituals and funerary practices</td>
<td>• Alexander the Great</td>
<td>• Pompeii and Herculaneum</td>
<td>• Augustus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assessment

BrisbaneSDE will devise assessments in Units 1 and 2 to prepare students for Units 3 and 4 assessment.

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).

Summative assessments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit 3</th>
<th>Unit 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Summative internal assessment 1 (IA1):</td>
<td>Summative internal assessment 3 (IA3):</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Examination — essay in response to historical sources 25%</td>
<td>• Investigation — historical essay based on research 25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summative internal assessment 2 (IA2):</td>
<td>Summative external assessment (EA):</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Independent source investigation 25%</td>
<td>• Examination — short responses to historical sources 25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Texts

There are no set textbooks for this subject.