

Ancient History A Level

We're really looking forward to getting started in the autumn on Ancient History! To come in with a solid foundation, you will find some readings and videos below. Note that there are both essential and optional bits. You are expected to do the essential items but, if time is short, you aren't required to do anything under the heading of 'optional' (because those are optional – can't stress this enough!).

Essential bits - Please come to class in September:

- Greece
 - Essential reading
 - [Introduction to Herodotus](#)
 - Essential videos
 - Complete the [Khan Academy course on Ancient Greece](#). It consists of 5 videos, each about 10 minutes long:



- Rome
 - Essential reading
 - [Introduction to Mary Beard's 'SPQR'](#)
 - Essential listening
 - "The Rest is History" podcast episode 135, "Crossing the Rubicon: the die is cast."

Totally optional bits - you *may* be interested in:

- Greece
 - Optional reading
 - Tom Holland's 'Persian Fire'
 - Steven Pressfield's 'Tides of War'
 - Optional videos
 - Informal History of Greece
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mzGVpkYiJ9w&t=379s>
- Rome
 - Optional reading
 - Any/all of the books in Colleen McCullough's 'Masters of Rome' series

- Robert Graves 'I, Claudius' and/or 'Claudius the God'
- Optional videos
 - The timeless classic of the BBCs 'I, Claudius' can be found on YouTube
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9_oQrpQfrPs&list=PLT-k0lP5b7WUa19N3G9qXkHXcWzHri201