



Classics Curriculum Booklet 2021-22

INTRODUCTION

All students follow a common curriculum during their first three years at The Tiffin Girls' School however, we would like to offer an element of choice for one of those lessons: Latin or Classical Civilisation.

The purpose of this booklet is to explain the option process and to provide parents and students with information about the subjects.

There are some caveats with the decision to be made. If students choose to study Classical Civilisation in Year 9, they will not be able to study GCSE Latin from Year 10. Therefore students should pick Latin if they know they will definitely want to study Latin for GCSE or if they have not yet decided on their GCSE Option choices. We anticipate that the majority of students will choose to take Latin. Secondly, it may be that not all students can study a particular subject. Every effort is made to enable students to study the subject that they prefer, but it should be noted the school reserves the right to remove a subject if it is undersubscribed and if there are staffing challenges. If the subject is oversubscribed we will ensure that the makeup of the classes is by random selection.

Students will be submitting their choice electronically no later than **Friday 21 May at 4.00pm**.

Option Timeline

Date	Event/Action
Wednesday 28 April 2021	Launch in Year 8
Tuesday 3 May 2021	Start of window to select Options
Friday 21 May 2021	Deadline for submission of options choices by 4.00pm

Deciding Wisely

Please be very careful about what you are choosing. You need to make sure YOU have made the best possible choice. The following is a summary of the key points to consider that we feel are most noteworthy whilst making your possible choices:

- It is important that you have a balanced curriculum to keep your options open for the future
- Choose to study those the subject that you enjoy the most and that you are good at
- Choose a subject that complements and will develop the skills that you enjoy using and are good at
- Ensure that you understand the different practical and theoretical demands of the subjects
- There is no guarantee that teachers of will continue to teach your class at next year
- The decisions that your friends make are based upon their personal evaluation of their own strengths, ambitions and skill sets. Ensure that your decision is informed in the same way and not simply a reflection of what your friends will be studying

Options Online

The following is a step-by-step guide of how to select your Option, using the Options Online programme.

1. You will be sent an email to your school email address from noreply@sims.co.uk with joining instructions for Options Online.
2. Sign in with Google (our provider) and use your Google username, password and the verification code given in your invitation email.
3. You then have to be given the correct permissions for students. This can take up to 72 hours.
4. Sign into Options Online.
5. Select your Option choice.



The screenshot shows the 'Options Online' interface. On the left, under the heading 'Classics BNV', there is a section titled 'Classics'. Below this, it says 'You have chosen 0 of 1 courses from this list'. There are two course selection buttons: 'Class Civ. Key Stage 3' and 'Latin Key Stage 3'. On the right, there is a section titled 'My Choices in Order of Preference' with '(Total Choices: 0)'. Below this, it says 'To change your order of preference select a choice and click the position in the list you would like to move it to.' and 'No courses selected.'

6. You can save your Options at any time and return to the web page if you like.



7. NB There is NO submit button to press.
8. Sign out of Options Onlines

If at any time you get stuck, or submit the form too early, then it can be returned to you. Just email Mrs Harris (a.harris@tiffingirls.org)

Course Information 2021-22

Latin

Course Content:

This is similar to Latin classes in Year 7 and 8. We will study a combination of Latin language and Roman culture in lessons. Homework will mostly be learning vocabulary and grammar endings. A typical lesson will consist of:

- *Derivations*
- *Introduction of grammar topic*
- *Discussion of Classical stories and paintings*
- *Translation of Latin passages*
- *Creative projects on mythology (such as writing your own play about Greek myths and creating artwork based on mythology)*

Skills Needed for Latin:

- ✓ *Do you like solving puzzles?*
- ✓ *Do you have a logical mind?*
- ✓ *Do you like learning about languages?*
- ✓ *Do you have an interest in Classical culture?*

Both courses will cover similar topics but the tasks in lessons will focus on different skills

We will continue to learn about Latin grammar and syntax building on topics covered in Year 7 and 8. We will also study Classical culture and literature including Roman and Greek myths and well-known stories from Ovid's *Metamorphoses* such as Narcissus and Echo, Daphne and Apollo and Daedalus and Icarus.

You must take Latin in Year 9 if you are considering taking Latin for GCSE. However, you do not have to take Latin for GCSE if you take it in Year 9.

Assessment:

You will be assessed twice during the year. These assessments will be very similar in form to assessments in Year 7 and 8 and will contain passages of Latin translation and short English to Latin sentences.

Classical Civilisation

Course Content:

This is similar to English classes in Year 7 and 8. We will study 2 books about a Classical subject and focus on creative writing. In the Autumn term the set book will be *Circe* by Madeleine Miller which follows the life of the witch and her relationship with the hero Odysseus. In the Spring and Summer terms the set book will be *Mythos* by Stephen Fry which retells the Greek myths including Narcissus and Echo, Daphne and Apollo and Daedalus and Icarus. We will also read short extracts from ancient literature in English which describe the characters we are studying. Homework will mostly be learning reading and extending creative writing pieces. A typical lesson will consist of:

A typical Classical Civilisation lesson will include:

- *Reading of set books (Circe by Madeleine Miller and Mythos by Stephen Fry)*
- *Literary analysis of author's work*
- *Discussion of Classical background and paintings*
- *Creative writing using the author's work as a stimulus material*

Skills Needed for Classical Civilisation:

- ✓ *Do you like creative writing?*
- ✓ *Do you like reading?*
- ✓ *Do you like literary analysis?*
- ✓ *Do you have an interest in Classical culture?*

Both courses will cover similar topics but the tasks in lessons will focus on different skills. If you take Classical Civilisation in Year 9 you will not be able to take Latin for GCSE. Classical Civilisation is only offered as an option in Year 9 and cannot be taken further up the school.

Assessment:

You will be assessed twice during the year. These assessments will take the form of creative writing pieces and assessment of knowledge about the background and mythology that we have covered in class.