

Managing the change; moving from the current AQA specification to the reformed OCR A Level

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We are excited about our new OCR A Level Classical Civilisation specification and the opportunities presented by the reform process. This summary guide has been produced to help teachers to manage the change from teaching the current AQA specification and to make best use of their existing resources and knowledge.

Content

Our new specification has exciting new content, and an innovative new approach to teaching and assessing A Level Classical Civilisation, but we have retained popular topics, and many features which make the subject so vibrant and engaging for students. The following grids illustrate what material from the current AQA specification might map to the new OCR one, and where this can be found. This is intended as a helpful guide for teachers when they are choosing and planning their units, and will enable them to make the best use of their existing resources and experience. This resource is not intended, however, to imply that old material can be taught for the new specification without adjustment or revision, or that all old material will be relevant for the new specification. **Teachers should ensure they are familiar with the new specification document and its topics, and the new assessment model.**



AQA Current Specification (2020)		Reformed OCR Specification (H408)
CIV1A: Greek Architecture and Sculpture	Free-standing and architectural sculpture	Greek Art (24)
CIV1B: Athenian Democracy		Democracy and the Athenians (34)
CIV1C: Aristophanes and Athens		Democracy and the Athenians (34)
CIV1D: Women in Athens and Rome	Women's participation in religion	Love and relationships (32)
	The legal status and roles of freeborn women in public and private life in Athens and Rome	
	The values and attitudes implicit in the position and treatment of women in each society	
CIV1F: The Life and Times of Cicero		Politics of the Late Republic (33)
CIV2A: Homer Iliad		The world of the hero (11)
CIV2B: Homer Odyssey		The world of the hero (11)
CIV2C: Athenian Vase Painting		Greek Art (24)
CIV2D: Athenian Imperialism		Elements of this unit can be found in Democracy and the Athenians (34)
CIV3B: The Persian Wars		The invention of the barbarian (23)
CIV3C: Greek Tragedy		Greek Theatre (21)
CIV3D: Augustus and the Foundation of the Principate		Imperial image (22)
CIV4A: Socrates and Athens		Greek Religion (31)
CIV4C: Roman Epic		The world of the hero (11)

Can't find what you are looking for?

If you currently teach, or want to teach, something you can't find on our new Classical Civilisation specification then try looking at the draft new OCR Ancient History A Level specification <http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-a-level-gce-ancient-history-h007-h407-from-2017/> as you might find it is better suited to your needs.



Assessment

The new Assessment Objectives are not a dramatic change from the legacy ones. There are still only two, one crediting knowledge and one crediting analytical and evaluative skills. Whilst they are more detailed in their requirements what will be asked of learners has not substantially changed.

Assessment Objectives for the Current AQA Specification (2020)	The new Assessment Objectives for the Reformed OCR Specification (H408)
<p>AO1 Recall and deploy relevant knowledge and understanding of literary, cultural, material or historical sources or linguistic forms, in their appropriate contexts</p> <p>AO2a Analyse, evaluate and respond to classical sources (literary, cultural, material, historical or linguistic), as appropriate</p> <p>AO2b Select, organise and present relevant information and argument in a clear, logical, accurate and appropriate form</p>	<p>AO1: Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • literature, visual/material culture, and classical thought from the classical world • how sources and perspectives reflect their cultural contexts • possible interpretations of sources and perspectives by different audiences and individuals. <p>AO2: Critically analyse, interpret and evaluate literature, visual/material culture, and classical thought from the classical world, using evidence to make substantiated judgements and produce coherent and reasoned arguments.</p>

OCR's new AS and A Level papers will contain question forms familiar to previous AQA centres:

- Short answer questions targeting knowledge and understanding only
- 10 mark stimulus questions
- Lower tariff essay questions of 20 and 30 marks

For further details about the approach to assessment, please look at the [draft specification and SAMS](#) on our website.