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2016
*Celebrating
75 years*

Classical Studies

Classical Studies is the study of Ancient Greece and Rome. It is a fascinating subject. Students in Loreto College Foxrock are privileged to have the opportunity to study it as not many schools offer Classics as a subject. It is a very rich subject which is broad in scope. Students get the opportunity to study literature, art, mythology, poetry, drama, politics, archaeology, and history. Any student can choose Classics as a Leaving Certificate subject. No prior knowledge is required.

Ancient Epic

Students will study Homer's *Odyssey*. This is a very enjoyable epic tale about a hero called Odysseus. Odysseus was a famous Greek warrior who fought in the Trojan War. On his way home he angered the God Poseidon so Poseidon made his journey home extremely difficult. The word *Odyssey* means journey. Odysseus's wife Penelope was patient and loving and waited 20 years for her beloved husband to return home from Troy!

Greek Art and Architecture

This element of Classical Studies is the study of Ancient Greek temples, theatres and sculptures from 660 BC to 100 BC. Greece was seen as the capital of art, architecture, culture and civilization in the Ancient World. Students will have a chance to discover why this was the case. In Ireland many buildings such as Trinity College Dublin, G.P.O and the Four Courts are partially Greek in design.

Augustan Writers

Students will study the works of the following key writers in the age of Augustus Caesar: Virgil, Horace, Livy, Ovid and Propertius. In their works the Augustan writers praise him for bringing peace. They also wrote about issues that concerned them personally such as love and nature.

Alexander the Great

This is a historical topic. Alexander ruled Macedonia from 336 - 323 BC. In the space of 13 years he conquered a large chunk of the world: from Greece to India. Students will study two accounts of his life. Alexander was a very colourful character who has fascinated generations. Students will learn all about his military conquests and about his personal life. He is as famous for his personal life as he is for his conquests!

How is the subject examined

It is a three hour exam and students have to answer six questions. Four of these questions are essay questions. The two questions on Greek art and architecture are shorter questions.

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