

Classical Greek Extension

Stage 6 Syllabus

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1 The Higher School Certificate Program of Study

The purpose of the Higher School Certificate program of study is to:

- provide a curriculum structure which encourages students to complete secondary education;
- foster the intellectual, social and moral development of students, in particular developing their:
 - knowledge, skills, understanding and attitudes in the fields of study they choose
 - capacity to manage their own learning
 - desire to continue learning in formal or informal settings after school
 - capacity to work together with others
 - respect for the cultural diversity of Australian society;
- provide a flexible structure within which students can prepare for:
 - further education and training
 - employment
 - full and active participation as citizens;
- provide formal assessment and certification of students' achievements;
- provide a context within which schools also have the opportunity to foster students' physical and spiritual development.

2 Rationale for Classical Greek Extension in the Stage 6 Curriculum

The Classical Greek Extension course aims to build upon the knowledge and skills acquired in the Continuers course in Classical Greek.

While the study of Classical Greek at Continuers level develops a variety of skills and enhances the understanding of culture and language, the Extension course provides the opportunity for a wider exploration of Classical Greek literature, with a greater emphasis on the analysis and appreciation of Classical Greek text.

The development of enhanced analytical skills is assured in the further study of a classical language and its literature. Such enhanced analytical skills are relevant to the study of other languages and literature, society and culture, history, political science, law, economics and communications, and to those areas of the world of work which involve the reading and writing of documents.

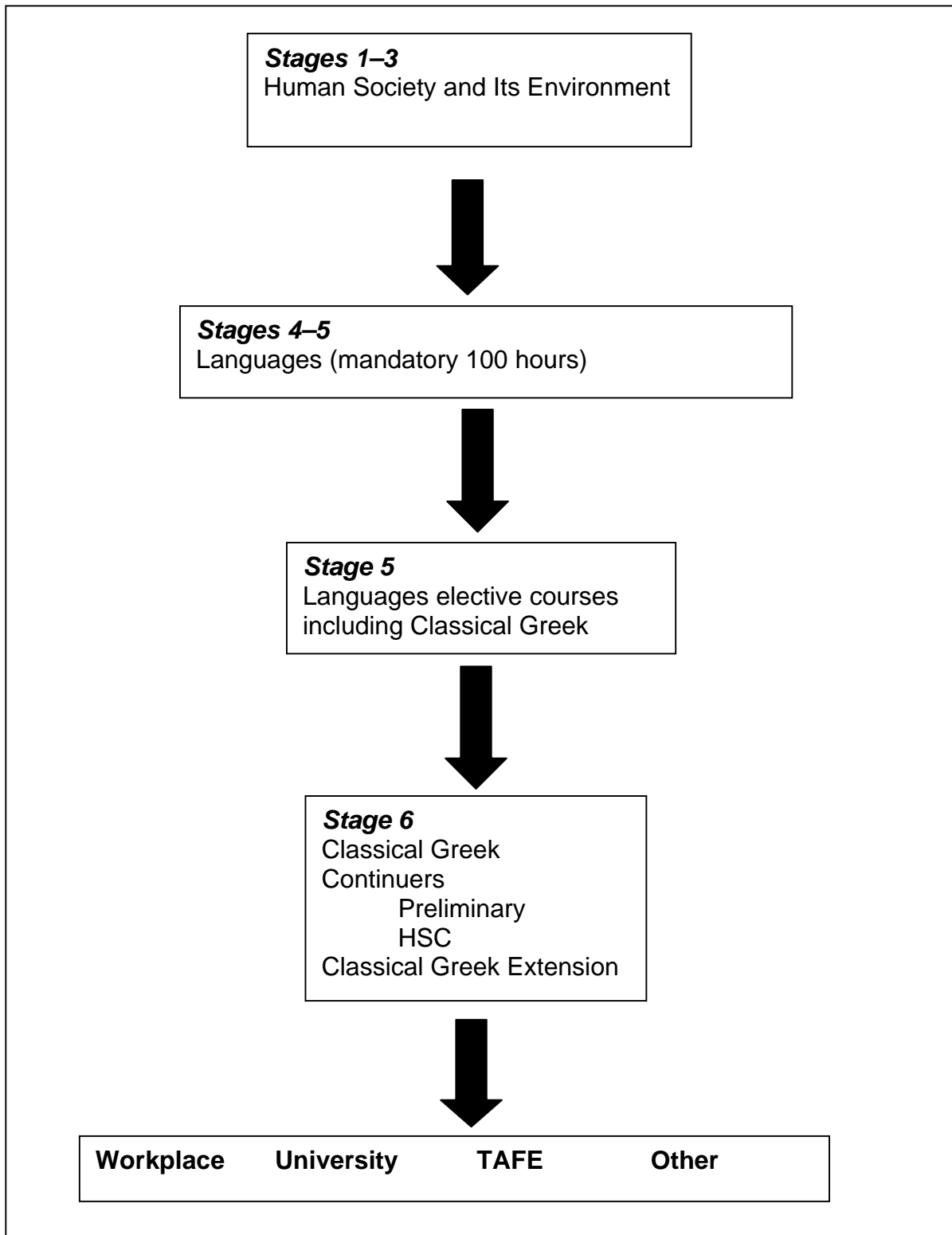
The Extension course leads students into an area of classical literature that is not explored in the Continuers course.

The course is based upon Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey*, the epic poems which stand at the head of western European literature. These heroic tales of war and adventure have entertained for 3000 years, enriching western literature beyond measure.

Reading Homer's verse in the original language rather than merely in translation provides a much better appreciation of the conventions, attractive qualities and subtleties of the epic and oral traditions. Furthermore, studying Homeric language gives insight into features of the four major Greek dialects and into the historical development of the Greek language.

The study of Classical Greek literature is a continuous intellectual process through which students acquire a variety of learning strategies that are transferable across the curriculum. The intellectual process encourages the development of independence, imagination, lateral thinking, logic, communication and problem-solving skills, all of which are valued by employers in all areas of work.

3 Continuum of Learning for Classical Greek Stage 6 Students



The New South Wales curriculum provides opportunities for students to study a language or languages from Early Stage 1 through to Stage 6.

In the K–6 (Stages 1–3) Human Society and Its Environment key learning area, students develop an awareness of languages and may learn about the world through the study of a language such as Classical Greek.

In Years 7–10, a language is a mandatory component of the School Certificate, with students being required to complete 100 hours of language study. Elective study in Stages 4–5 in Classical Greek builds upon the mandatory study.

Stage 6 offers students the opportunity to continue the study of Classical Greek at Continuers level with the option of an Extension course. The Extension course builds upon the Classical Greek Continuers course.

4 Aims

The aims of this syllabus are to increase the students' enjoyment of, and diversify their knowledge of, classical literature; to develop the students' linguistic competence; to extend their analytical skills; and to refine their ability to respond critically to literature.

5 Objectives

Students will achieve the following objectives:

- Objective 1 — read, and demonstrate understanding of, original Classical Greek texts
- Objective 2 — demonstrate understanding of the historical, social and literary context in which the prescribed Classical Greek text was written
- Objective 3 — translate text using linguistic skills.

6 Course Structure

The structure for Classical Greek Extension is as follows:

Classical Greek Extension Course (60 indicative hours)
<p>Through the study of text in the original Classical Greek, students develop skills in translating and analysing text. Students develop knowledge and understanding of Homeric Greek, and develop an appreciation of the social, historical and literary context of the period it describes. For this purpose, some additional text is studied in English.</p> <p>Prescribed text</p> <p>Text will be read for intensive study in Classical Greek and may also include further study of the text in translation. The student will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• demonstrate comprehension of extracts• evaluate text in its context• evaluate text as a work of literature. <p>Non-prescribed text</p> <p>Study of non-prescribed text involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• demonstrating comprehension through translation of an extract of Homeric Greek into English <p style="text-align: center;">and/or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• translating English into Classical Greek using vocabulary featured in the prescribed text of the Continuers course.

7 Objectives and Outcomes

The outcomes for the Classical Greek Extension course, given below, build on the outcomes for the Classical Greek Continuers course. It is implicit in the outcomes of the Classical Greek Extension course that students have achieved the outcomes of the Preliminary Classical Greek Continuers course.

7.1 Table of Objectives and Outcomes

Objectives	Outcomes
<p>The student will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. read and demonstrate understanding of original Classical Greek texts 	<p>The student:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1 infers meaning of unfamiliar words or phrases from common patterns of word formation and from context 1.2 demonstrates understanding of the content of Classical Greek texts 1.3 demonstrates understanding of the linguistic features of Classical Greek texts
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. demonstrate understanding of the historical, social and literary context in which the prescribed Classical Greek text was written 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1 evaluates the ideas, values, attitudes and arguments presented in the prescribed text 2.2 identifies and evaluates the structure of the prescribed text 2.3 identifies and evaluates the literary features of the prescribed text 2.4 discusses significant cultural and historical issues presented in the text 2.5 discusses the relationship between the prescribed extract and the text as a whole
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. translate text using linguistic skills 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1 translates text not previously studied, using vocabulary and style appropriate to the context

8 Content

Prescribed texts provide the focus of the Extension course. The *Iliad* and *Odyssey* represent a major genre of Classical Greek literature not studied in the Continuers course. These texts, coming from an earlier period, also present the student with the challenge of a different dialect.

Students will translate, analyse and evaluate the text with respect to stylistic and structural features. Although students will need to recognise features of Homeric dialect and metre, they will not be expected to have a detailed knowledge of them.

Students may either translate an extract of Homeric text into English or translate a passage of English text requiring vocabulary featured in the prescribed text of the Continuers course.

8.1 Canon

Homer, *Iliad*, books I, III, VI, IX, XXIV

Homer, *Odyssey*, books VI, VII, IX, X, XIX, XXIII, XXIV

Each year, approximately 500 lines will be prescribed for translation and detailed comment. In addition, students will be required to read more of the text in translation, as specified, in order to understand the context of the prescribed extracts and their significance within the text as a whole.

8.2 Rotation of Texts

The following schema shows the order in which the texts will be prescribed for each year of study:

1. *Odyssey* VI all; VII lines 1–132
2. *Iliad* XXIV lines 159–646
3. *Odyssey* XIX, lines 1–475 for translation and analysis. The remainder of Book XIX is set to be read in English translation.
4. *Iliad* I lines 1–427; 488–530
5. *Odyssey* IX lines 1–38; 105–115; 166–566
6. *Iliad* III all
7. *Odyssey* X lines 135–574
8. *Iliad* VI lines 73–529
9. *Odyssey* XXIII all; XXIV lines 98–204
10. *Iliad* IX lines 162–619

8.3 Vocabulary

The vocabulary in the Continuers course is assumed knowledge. There is no prescribed vocabulary list for the Extension course. It is expected that students will be familiar with the extensive range of vocabulary used in the prescribed text.

8.4 Dictionaries

The student should be encouraged to use dictionaries. It is expected that teachers will assist students to develop the necessary skills and confidence to use dictionaries effectively. For external examinations dictionaries will not be permitted.

Suitable editions are published with the Resources on the Board of Studies website (<http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au>).

8.5 Grammar

The grammatical structures prescribed for the Continuers course are assumed knowledge. Their application will be expected for prose composition.

Characteristic features of Homeric Greek should be studied for recognition.

These will be found by reference to standard accounts of Homeric grammar in the introductions of the prescribed texts.

9 Course Requirements

For the Extension course:

- the Preliminary course is a prerequisite
- the Continuers course is a co-requisite
- 60 indicative hours are required to complete the course.

10 Post-school Opportunities

The study of Classical Greek provides students with knowledge, understanding and skills that form a valuable foundation for a range of courses at university and other tertiary institutions.

In addition, the study of Classical Greek assists students to prepare for employment, and full and active participation as citizens.

11 Assessment and Reporting

Advice on appropriate assessment practice in relation to the Classical Greek Extension syllabus is contained in *Assessment and Reporting in Classical Greek Extension Stage 6*. That document provides general advice on assessment in Stage 6 as well as the specific requirements for the HSC course. The document contains:

- mandatory components and weightings for the internal assessment of the HSC course
- the HSC examination specifications, which describe the format of the external HSC examination.

The document and other resources and advice related to assessment in Stage 6 Classical Greek Extension are available on the Board's website at www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/syllabus_hsc