

## Teacher Resource Bank

GCE Classical Civilisation

Extended Project Qualification



## THE EXTENDED PROJECT

The Extended Project is a level 3 qualification to be introduced from September 2008. It will be available to all level 3 learners, from GCE to modern apprenticeships, and is a compulsory part of the new diplomas.

Students have to:

- choose a topic to study
- complete a production log to document the project process
- plan, research and carry out their project
- prepare a presentation on the outcome.

**The Extended Project at Level 3 offers opportunities for learners to:**

- have a significant input into the choice and design of an extended project and take responsibility either for an individual task or for a defined task within a group project
- develop and improve their own learning and performance as critical, reflective and independent learners
- develop and apply decision making and, where appropriate, problem solving skills
- extend their planning, research, critical thinking, analysis, synthesis, evaluation and presentation skills
- develop, where appropriate, as confident learners and apply new technologies in their studies
- develop and apply skills creatively, demonstrating initiative and enterprise
- use their learning experiences to support their personal aspirations for higher education and career development.

**The new level 3 Extended Project** gives students more control over their studies than ever before. Candidates can choose to explore a further aspect of a subject they're studying, or another subject, or simply choose a topic that they have a personal interest in. The finished project can be a written report, a performance, a piece of art, a community project, a CD or DVD, or even computer software.

This level of choice and flexibility means students are engaged and motivated, and gain valuable research and project management skills along the way.

### The Assessment Objectives

#### **AO1 – Manage**

Identify, design, plan, and complete the individual project, or task within a group project, applying organisational skills and strategies to meet stated objectives.

#### **AO2 – Use Resources/Research**

Obtain and select information from a range of sources, analyse data, apply relevantly and demonstrate understanding of any appropriate linkages, connections and complexities of their topic.

#### **AO3 – Develop and Realise**

Select and use a range of skills, including new technologies, to solve problems, to take decisions critically, creatively and flexibly, and to achieve planned outcomes.

#### **AO4 – Review**

Evaluate outcomes including own learning and performance. Select and use a range of communication skills and media to convey and present evidenced outcomes and conclusions.

## The Extended Project in Classical Civilisation

The Extended Project can be used to give students of Classical Civilisation the opportunities previously afforded by coursework. Students can choose to research an aspect of one of the topics they are studying or to focus on something completely different. Many of the suggested areas given below are cross-curricular and involve students looking at the development through time of a topic or theme that interests them.

### Suggested Areas of Study

#### Literature

Students may use the Extended Project to research and evaluate the development of a particular literary genre, for example comedy, tragedy, oral poetry or satire, from its classical routes to the modern day. This type of project is likely to appeal to candidates who are also studying English literature and/or drama. Drama students may also like to consider the staging of individual plays and may decide to put on a performance as part of their project.

#### History

An evaluation of the development of democracy or of the changing role and status of women could be the starting point for students whose interests are more historical. Some students might like to focus on the lives and careers of significant individuals and on their contributions to history.

#### Archaeology

For those who have Roman remains on their doorstep, the Extended Project provides an ideal opportunity to study the archaeological evidence and look at what it can tell us about the lives of people who lived in Roman times.

#### Art

Students whose interests are more artistic might look at how Greek art and sculpture have influenced later artists right up to the modern day, or they might like to try their hand at recreating Athenian pottery – how well can they recreate the techniques used? How good are the results?

### Titles used in the Pilot Scheme

Some schools and colleges have already taken part in a pilot of the Extended Project Qualification. The following titles, which were all submitted by students of A level Classical Civilisation as part of the pilot, may give your students some ideas of topics they would like to research.

- A comparison between two tragedies: the Greek tragedy *Oedipus The King* and the Shakespearean tragedy *Hamlet*.
- To what extent did icons of the classical world mould Alexander's character and his conquest of ancient civilisation?
- A comparison of the political speeches of Cicero nearing the end of the Roman Republic and of Churchill during World War Two.
- In the satirical plays of Aristophanes, Wycherley and Sheridan, show how each dramatist selects and shapes their satirical techniques to suit audience and context.

### Find out more

For further information about the Extended Project Qualification visit our website [www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk) or email [epq@aqa.org.uk](mailto:epq@aqa.org.uk)