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Subject:	**Ancient History**
Subject Context:	The course has two sections: Sparta and the Greek World (Ancient Greece 492-404 BC) and Emperors and Empire (Roman emperors from Augustus to Nero and Roman Britain) A good place to start to look at the A level specification and familiarise yourself with what you will be studying on the course: https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-and-a-level/ancient-history-h007-h407-from-2017
Reading List:	BBC History Extra Magazine www.historyextra.com – Your Guide to Ancient Greece www.historyextra.com – A Brief Guide to Ancient Rome Books to Read **Imperium, Lustrum, Dictator** by Robert Harris **SPQR** by Mary Beard **Persian Fire** by Tom Holland **Ancient Greece** by Thomas Martin **Mythos** by Stephen Fry Podcasts- The Rest is History Episode 56 – Nero Episode 82 – Sparta Episodes 98 & 99 – Thermopylae and Salamis Episodes 134 & 135 – Crossing the Rubicon Episodes 195-198 – Cleopatra, Caesar and Anthony Episodes 304-305 The Murder of Julius Caesar and the Fall of the Roman Republic Episode 330 – Herodotus: The Birth of History Episode 334 – Athens and the Birth of Democracy
Essential resources or equipment required for the course:	A folder for each side of the course Pens, paper, highlighters Enthusiasm!

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Taster Activity:	**Task 1** To help familiarise yourself with some important elements of the Greek and Roman periods you are going to study, watch the following 'TedEd' talks on YouTube and produce two mind maps – one entitled 'An Introduction to Ancient Greece', the other 'An Introduction to Ancient Rome' A day in the life of an Ancient Athenian https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ar8S6virCwM This is Sparta https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M7V1a1I5BL0 A day in the life of a Roman Soldier https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P5e7cl19Ha0 History vs. Augustus https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QrcmojhFmzY **Case Studies:** Pick one of the following options to research and produce a brief profile – this should be a maximum of one side of A4 and include headings such as: Background, key dates, key figures etc. • Option 1: The Battle of Marathon (490 BC) • Option 2: Emperor Nero A good place to start your research in World History Encyclopedia. YouTube also has a number of good documentaries and if you want something a bit more challenging, then listen to the one of the 'In Our Time' episodes from Radio 4 BBC Radio 4 - In Our Time, History **Task 2:** Below in our list of books we have referred to the gripping trilogy by Robert Harris about the Roman Consul and writer Cicero. He is a great resource and describes the end of the Republic and the impression initially made by the first emperor Augustus. It would be good if you could find out a bit more about him. A picture and a few points would be excellent. **Task 3** Source one of the books or listen to one of the podcasts from the reading list above. Write a summary of the key facts and main points you have learnt.
Resources needed to complete the activity:	Use the websites suggested above

Estimated time required to complete the activity:	Allow an hour for each task
How you could extend your learning:	Places to visit • Visit The British Museum – especially useful for the Greek side of the course as it contains a wide selection of remains from 5th Century Athens, including a large portion of the Parthenon frieze Films to Watch: • BBC Documentary 'Who were the Greeks?' Often on iplayer and a good introduction to the Greek world. • Bettany Hughes' Ancient World – 'Athens: The Truth about Democracy' and 'The Spartans' (Available on 4OD or YouTube) • Eight Days that made Rome' – Bethany Hughes • Ancient Invisible cities – Athens (Available on iplayer) excellent introduction to the city and its ancient architecture. • Meet the Romans with Mary Beard – 3 part series available on YouTube • 'Nero' and 'Caligula' documentaries by Tony Robinson on YouTube