Ancient History is a greatly diverse subject. You will utilise a range of sources to study the political, social and cultural history of the Mediterranean world, including topics such as imperialism, slavery, religion and warfare.

- Wide range of specialist topics covering all periods of ancient history, from archaic Greece to late antiquity.
- Archaeology is integrated into Ancient History throughout, with specialist Archaeology courses in third and fourth years.
- No prior experience required: you can start studying Ancient History here.
- Option to learn Latin and Greek from scratch alongside your Ancient History courses.

What will I study?

Ancient History

Ancient History at St Andrews is an exciting and wide-ranging subject that covers not just the ancient Greeks and Romans but also some of their neighbours, such as the Persians and Phoenicians. Key specialisms at St Andrews include ancient religion, gender, historiography, economics, warfare, empires, and cities and urban living. The Ancient History degree will take you on a fascinating journey to the heart of two complex and varied societies that are both deeply familiar and profoundly strange.

Ancient History & Archaeology

Ancient History & Archaeology combines the best of ancient history with the special insights that the study of material culture can bring. This degree will take you to the heart of key debates on all areas of life in the ancient Mediterranean, including urbanism, religion, trade, warfare and cultural identity.

Both programmes:

First year

You will study Greece from the emergence of Greek civilisation in the eighth century BCE to the conquests of Alexander the Great in the fourth century BCE, and Rome from its foundation to the rise of Augustus, the first emperor. You will also learn how to interpret a wide range of evidence, from written histories to inscriptions and archaeology.

Second year

You will study the Roman empire from Augustus to Constantine, exploring its politics, organisation, religion, and economy. Then you will take a long view of human settlement in the Mediterranean to the seventh century CE, focusing on archaeological evidence and interpretation to understand how the Greeks, Romans and their neighbours sustained their civilisations.

Third and fourth years (Honours)

You will choose from a wide range of specialist courses to pursue your own interests. Recent courses in archaeology have included the city of Rome, Minoan Crete, and Greek sculpture and pottery. Recent topics in ancient history have included Greece and the Persians, ancient religion, Roman slavery, and empires in antiquity.

Entry requirements

We consider all aspects of every application, including context, equivalent qualifications and the Personal Statement. Offers may be higher or lower than the grades stated here. See also page 369.

www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/entry

Competitive applications will have previous experience of studying a modern or ancient foreign language at National 5 / GCSE level, or equivalent.

SQA Highers: ABB

GCE A-Levels: AAA

International Baccalaureate

Points: 36, including three subjects at HL6.

“I chose Ancient History as St Andrews offers a broad range of classes taught around the research interests of the lecturers, so going into the class you know that it is a topic being actively researched and contributed to by the people teaching you.”

George (Texas, USA)