



# ANCIENT HISTORY CLASS

## HOW IT WORKS

This is a live online course that teaches history through the Socratic discussion. At the beginning of the school year, students learn “the tools of the historian.” In other words, they learn how to differentiate between fact and opinion, form judgements on the basis of historian evidence and develop arguments that are based on facts, not emotions.

Once they have mastered these critical thinking skills, students turn their attention to history. In a step-by-step process, their teacher guides them through research, discussion, and debate. In addition to their textbook, students analyze primary sources and historical texts throughout the year.

Classes are held once a week for 50 minutes at a time. Class recording will be posted on the website the day after each class. To encourage participation and ensure full attention, students join live classes with their webcams on. However we have a strict privacy policy and don't record webcam feeds.

## COURSE GOALS

Students who complete this course will be able to:

1. Critically read primary and secondary sources
2. Provide cogent arguments in a Socratic discussion
3. Search for the Truth in honest dialogue
4. Develop strong speaking and listening skills

## TEXTBOOK AND COURSE MATERIALS

1. Take a Stand! Ancient Civilizations
2. Free Primary Resources Provided by Classical Historian
3. World History Detective
4. Go Fish! Ancient History card deck

## COURSE INFO AND CONTACTS

Instructor: Adam De Gree [adam@classicalhistorian.com](mailto:adam@classicalhistorian.com)

Administrative Questions: [john@classicalhistorian.com](mailto:john@classicalhistorian.com)

Technical Questions: [zdenka@classicalhistorian.com](mailto:zdenka@classicalhistorian.com)

30 online classes; Fall/Spring 2025-26; Wednesday 8:00-8:50 am Pacific Time

Grade 6 - 8

For schedule click [here](#)

## REQUIREMENTS

### DAILY WORK/HOMEWORK

Students are expected to read and answer questions for about one to two hours per week in preparation for class. There is no required work before the first class in September, and each homework assignment will be posted on the last slide of the PowerPoint presentation of each class. If a student misses the assignment for

whatever reason, it will be available in the course recording.

### **CLASS PARTICIPATION**

One hundred percent of the grade is based on class participation. All interactions in class will be civil and respectful. Reasoned debate requires polite disagreement. Students who do the reading and participate in class will fulfill the course requirements. Students are required to have their cameras on during class and are expected to engage in discussion. Please have the student sitting in a quiet room with no distractions.

### **MISSED CLASSES**

If students miss class for whatever reason, they are responsible for watching the recording on the Classical Historian website. Students must watch the recording to complete the homework assignment.

### **TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS**

All classes take place using Zoom, so access to a computer or tablet with a good internet connection is needed. In August you will receive an email from Zdenka De Gree ([zdenka@classicalhistorian.com](mailto:zdenka@classicalhistorian.com)) explaining how to log in to the class and how to access the course recordings.

## **WRITING SUPPLEMENT**

**(optional)**

Our writing supplement runs in parallel to our live discussions. The online writing course starts with a two-hour video lesson on the basics of persuasive writing. Then, students will complete assignments that are based on our discussion topics.

Our teacher, Adam De Gree, has over 11 years of professional writing experience under his belt. He will be grading every essay submitted in this course. At minimum, students must write one essay per month. Based on Mr. De Gree's feedback, they will then have to revise that essay before moving on to the next assignment.

While students need to complete at least one essay a month, Mr. De Gree will grade an unlimited amount of essays. Parents are encouraged to have their students write at a more frequent pace if they want a bigger challenge.

All communication between students and Mr. De Gree will occur via email.

## **INSTRUCTOR INFO**

Adam De Gree is a Philosophy graduate from the University of California, Santa Barbara and holds a Master of Arts in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics from Prague's CEVRO Institute. His research covers the intersection of aesthetics and economic theory. He and his wife Tessa are raising their three children in a quaint village in the Czech Republic. Adam is available to parents and students at [adam@classicalhistorian.com](mailto:adam@classicalhistorian.com)

## **COURSE SCHEDULE/ HISTORY CONTENT**

Students will learn the independent and critical thinking skills specific to the study of history. They will apply these skills to the open-ended, analytical questions in the following topics:

1. Course Introduction
2. The Fertile Crescent and the Sumerians
3. Babylonian Empire
4. Hittites and Phoenicians
5. Ancient Hebrews
6. Judaism
7. Assyria and the Chaldean Empires
8. Ancient Egypt
9. Mesopotamia and Egypt
10. Ancient India: Indian Culture and Society
11. Hinduism and Buddhism
12. Ancient China: Xia, Shang, and Zhou Dynasties
13. Ancient China: Qin and Han Dynasties
14. Minoans and Mycenaeans
15. Athens
16. Sparta
17. Persian Wars
18. Peloponnesian Wars
19. Macedonians and Hellenistic Age
20. Classical Greece: Education, Philosophy, and Performing Arts
21. Classical Greece: Art, Architecture, and Mythology
22. Greek Literature and Mythology
23. Roman Republic
24. Roman Military and the Phoenician Wars
25. Decline of the Roman Republic
26. Beginning of the Roman Empire
27. Ancient Roman Art, Architecture, and Roman Emperors
28. Christianity
29. The Fall of the Roman Empire
30. Ancient Celts

## **SELF PACED OPTION**

For a self-paced year of ancient history, choose the recorded course. Students enrolled in the recorded course watch the recordings of our live discussions and complete the homework assignments on their own.

The cost of the recorded course is only \$5 per class.

**CLASS COST****HISTORY CLASS****WRITING**

Enroll Through February	\$400
Enroll Through May	\$425
Enroll After May	\$450

\$450

**DISCOUNTS**

- \$50 discount if you sign up for both history and literature classes
- \$50 sibling discount
- Curriculum sales for returning students signing up in February

**For Charter School Registration email****John at [john@classicalhistorian.com](mailto:john@classicalhistorian.com)****REGISTRATION IS FINAL**

Because there is a limited number of students in each class, all registration is final and no refunds are provided. However, credit for future courses can be given if unforeseen event arises.