

## RECOMMENDED READING LIST (IN TRANSLATION) FOR INCOMING MA STUDENTS DURHAM DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS AND ANCIENT HISTORY

**N.B.:** This recommended reading list is not meant to be prescriptive, nor would incoming students be expected to have read all the texts given here. Its primary function is to provide an impetus to further study in the summer before and throughout the undertaking of an MA in Classics, Ancient Philosophy, or Greece, Rome, and the Near East. It gives some basic guidance in terms of the sorts of ancient texts the knowledge of which could aid in successful completion of an MA in one of our degree programmes.

Prospective students are encouraged to have a look at the list as a whole and inquire into whether some of the texts given here might correspond to their own subject-interests; they are also encouraged to undertake exploration of some of the texts, especially with regard to how these texts might aid in the development of a dissertation project. In order to familiarise themselves with the broader issues involved in learning about these texts, students are also encouraged to look at basic reference works, which could support their learning about the more specific subject interests. A good starting point would be:

*The Oxford Handbook of Hellenic Studies*

Edited by George Boys-Stones, Barbara Graziosi, and Phiroze Vasunia (Oxford University Press, 2009)

*The Oxford Handbook of Roman Studies*

Edited by Alessandro Barchiesi and Walter Scheidel (Oxford University Press, 2010).

Students are encouraged to email the Director of the Taught MA Programmes, Dr Phillip Horky ([Phillip.Horky@Durham.ac.uk](mailto:Phillip.Horky@Durham.ac.uk)), if they would like some suggestions on what texts might be more appropriate for a given subject-interest.

### Greek

#### Poetry

Alcaeus	Lyrics
Alcman	Lyrics
Apollonius	<i>Argonautica</i> Book 3
Bacchylides	Lyrics (Selection)
Callimachus	Hymns, Epigrams, Fragments of the <i>Aetia</i>
Empedocles	Fragments (Selection)
Hesiod	<i>Theogony</i> <i>Works and Days</i>
Homer	<i>Iliad</i> <i>Odyssey</i>
Homeric Hymns	<i>Hymn to Apollo, Hymn to Demeter</i>

Pindar                    *Pythian Odes* (Selection)  
                              *Olympian Odes* (Selection)

Sappho                    Lyrics

Solon                     Lyrics

Theocritus                *Idylls* (Selection)

### **Prose**

Aeschines                *Against Timarchus*

Andocides                *On the Mysteries*

Aristotle                 *Athenian Constitution*  
                              *Nicomachean Ethics* Book 1  
                              *Poetics*

Demosthenes             *On the Crown*

Heraclitus                Fragments (Selection)

Herodotus                *Histories*

Longus                    *Daphnis and Chloe*

Lysias                     *On the Murder of Eratosthenes*

Lucian                    *Symposium*  
                              *True History*

Plato                     *Apology*  
                              *Ion*  
                              *Phaedrus*  
                              *Republic*  
                              *Symposium*

Plutarch                 *Life of Alexander*  
                              *Life of Tiberius Gracchus*

Polybius                 *Histories* Book 6

Sophists                 All fragments (in Dillon and Gergel's *Greek Sophists*, Penguin, 2003)

Thucydides               *History of the Peloponnesian War*

Xenophon                *Anabasis*  
                              *Symposium*

## **Drama**

Aeschylus	<i>Agamemnon</i> <i>Persians</i> <i>Prometheus Bound</i>
Aristophanes	<i>Clouds</i> <i>Frogs</i> <i>Lysistrata</i>
Sophocles	<i>Antigone</i> <i>Ajax</i> <i>Oedipus the King</i>
Euripides	<i>Bacchae</i> <i>Helen</i> <i>Medea</i>
Menander	<i>Dyskolos</i> <i>Samia</i>

## **Latin**

### **Poetry**

Catullus	<i>Carmina</i> (Selection)
Ennius	Fragments (Selection)
Horace	<i>Odes</i> Books 1 and 4 <i>Satires</i>
Juvenal	<i>Satires</i> 1-9
Livius Andronicus	Fragments (Selection)
Lucan	<i>Pharsalia</i> Books 1, 6, 7
Lucretius	<i>On the Nature of Things</i> Books 1, 5, 6
Martial	<i>Epigrams</i> (Selection)
Ovid	<i>Amores</i> (Books 1 and 2) <i>Fasti</i> (Selection) <i>Metamorphoses</i> <i>Tristia and Epistulae ex Ponto</i> (Selections)
Propertius	<i>Elegies</i> Books 1 and 4
Stattius	<i>Silvae</i> (Selection)
Tibullus	<i>Elegies</i> (Selection)

Vergil                    *Aeneid*  
                              *Eclogues*  
                              *Georgics*

### **Prose**

Apuleius                *Golden Ass*

Augustus                *Res Gestae*

Caesar                    *Civil War*  
                              *Gallic War*

Cicero                    *On the Orator*  
                              *Against Catiline*  
                              *In Defense of Caelius*  
                              *On Duties*  
                              *Philippics*

Livy                        *History of Rome from its Foundations* Books 1-2

Petronius                *Dinner at Trimalchio's* from *Satyrical*

Pliny the Elder        *Natural History* Preface in Book 1, Book 7, one Book from 8-11, Book 29

Pliny the Younger    *Letters* (at least one book)

Quintilian                *Institutio Oratoria* Book 10

Tacitus                    *Agricola*  
                              *Histories* Book 1

Sallust                    *Catilinarian Conspiracy*  
                              *Jugurthine War*

Seneca                    *Moral Epistles* (Selection)  
                              *On the Happy Life*

Suetonius                *Life of Augustus*  
                              *Life of Nero*

Vitruvius                *On Architecture* Book 1

### **Drama**

Plautus                    *Amphitruo*  
                              *Braggart Soldier*  
                              *Brothers Menaechmi*

Seneca                    *Phaedra*  
                              *Medea*

Terence

*Eunuch*  
*Adelphoe*