We know that many of you will be starting to think about preparing for your degree next year. If you want to do some reading over the next few months, the very best thing you can do is find something you know will really interest you! Below are some suggestions for preparatory reading for our degree programmes. If you have any questions at all, please feel free to contact our admissions tutors, Dr Jenny Bryan ([jenny.bryan@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:jenny.bryan@manchester.ac.uk), for Classical Studies, Classics, Ancient History and related Joint Honours degrees) and Dr Nick Overton ([nicholas.overton@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:nicholas.overton@manchester.ac.uk), for Archaeology and related Joint Honours degrees).

Classical Studies, Classics and Latin + students

Homer *Odyssey*. The current recommended translation is by Martin Hammond (<https://www.bloomsbury.com/uk/the-odyssey-9781472531049/>)

You may also want to look at

R. Fowler (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to Homer* (Cambridge University Press 2004)

A. Nicolson, *The Mighty Dead: Why Homer Matters* (Collins 2015)

M. Miller, *Circe* (Bloomsbury, 2019)

Virgil *Aeneid*. The current recommended translation is by David West (<https://www.penguin.co.uk/books/354/35488/the-aeneid/9780140449327.html>)

You may also want to look at

P. Hardie *Virgil* (Oxford University Press 1998)

C. Martindale and F. Mac Góráin (eds.), *The Cambridge Companion to Virgil* (Cambridge University Press 2019)

U. Le Guin, *Lavinia* (Weidenfeld & Nicholson, 2008)

Other possibilities include

W. Allan, *Classical Literature: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford University Press, 2014)

The History of Philosophy Without Any Gaps podcasts:

<https://historyofphilosophy.net/classical>

Language textbooks:

Intensive Latin: P. Jones and K. Sidwell, *Reading Latin* (Cambridge University Press, 2016)

Intensive Greek: *Reading Greek* (Cambridge University Press, 2007)

Advanced Latin 1: J. Taylor, *Latin Beyond GCSE,* 2nd edition (Bloomsbury, 2017)

Advanced Greek 1: J. Taylor, *Greek Beyond GCSE*, 2nd edition (Bloomsbury, 2017)

Ancient History and Ancient History + students

The best thing to do is to read something that really grabs your attention. There are also some really good podcasts on the history of Greece and Rome, including ‘That’s Ancient History’, ‘The History of Ancient Greece Podcast’ and ‘Emperors of Rome’

For background reading, you might like to take a look at:

Herodotus *The Histories*. There are lots of good translations. You may like to try the Penguin translation by Tom Holland.

Tacitus *The Annals*. Again, there are lots of good translations, including the Penguin version by Cynthia Damon.

R. Lane Fox, *Alexander the Great* (Penguin, 2004)

A. Goldsworthy, *The Complete Roman Army* (Thames and Hudson, 2011)

R. Lane Fox, *The Classical World* (Penguin, 2006)

Archaeology Students

*The History of Archaeology*: These are great introductory texts to the discipline of Archaeology. Read about some of the incredible discoveries of the past, and the archaeologists behind them.

Fagan, B. and Fagan, B.M. 2014 The Great Archaeologists. London: Thames & Hudson

Trigger, B. 1989. A History of Archaeological Thought. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

*The Archaeology of Britain, Europe, Mediterranean and Near East*: These are really good introductory texts to some of the past cultures and societies you will be studying in your first year with us.

Scarre, C. 2005 *The Human Past*. London: Thames and Hudson.

Ray, K. and Thomas, J. 2018 Neolithic Britain: The Transformation of Social Worlds. Oxford: Oxford Univerity Press. (paperback out in June)

Broodbank, C. (2013) *The Making of the Middle Sea: A History of the Mediterranean from the beginning to the emergence of the Classical World.*London: Thames & Hudson [large sections available through Google Books, but can also be bought as ebook]

Joy, J. 2009. *Lindow Man*. Trustees of the British Museum. (available on amazon for £6)

Bradley, R. 2019. The Prehistory of Britain and Ireland. Cambridge University Press.

*Archaeological Practice*: These will introduce you to some of the key methods archaeologists use in the field to identify and excavate sites, and in the laboratory to analyse and examine the artefacts we recover.

Grant, J, Gorin, S, and Fleming, N. 2015 (4th Edition). *The Archaeology Coursebook: An introduction to themes, sites, methods and skills*. London: Routledge.

Greene, K, and Moore, T. 2010 (5th Edition). *Archaeology: An Introduction.* London: Routledge.

Renfrew, C, and Bahn, P. 2016 (but also earlier versions available; newest version out June 2020), Archaeology: Theories, Methods and Practice. London: Thames & Hudson.