



JACT Durham Greek & Latin Summer School

JACT Summer Schools Trust (JSST)
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The 31st JACT Durham Greek & Latin Summer School: 2025

The JACT Durham Greek & Latin Summer School took place, as usual, at St John's College, Durham University from Saturday 26th July to Saturday 2nd August 2025. We were delighted to welcome 125 student's this year, which is our highest intake to date. The students we welcomed came from all different walks of life and educational backgrounds. The age range of our students this year was 15 to 87. Indeed, it is this inclusive approach to accessibility to Classics and Classics education that makes the JACT Durham Greek & Latin Summer School truly unique.

At this year's JACT Durham Greek & Latin Summer School we offered courses in Latin and Ancient Greek, these being: Beginner, Post-Beginner, Intermediate, Higher, and Advanced. However, due to our increased numbers these groups were split to keep numbers in each group low and to ensure that students received the best possible learning experience. In addition to our core language courses, we also ran our bespoke Classical Civilisation course on 'The Homeric Hero' for the second time since its inception in 2024. The 'Homeric Hero' was specially designed for students with no prior knowledge of Latin or Greek but who are keen to explore the culture and literature of Ancient Greece and the epic poems of Homer.

Students benefited from an intensive course in their chosen language / subject and received 18 hours of tuition over the course of the week. In addition to the scheduled teaching sessions, students were expected to prepare for their sessions in their dedicated private study time. All the students at the JACT Durham Greek & Latin Summer School worked exceptionally hard throughout the week, but there was still time for a lot of fun and relaxation. At the Summer School we offered a series of afternoon and evening lectures and workshops run by staff, visiting speakers and students themselves, as well as a planned excursion to Hadrian's Wall (Housesteads and Chesters). This year we were also delighted to offer a guided tour to the Oriental Museum in Durham.

Saturday – Welcome to JACT Durham: Classics & Ancient History Quiz.

Sunday (afternoon staff lecture) – *Barbari Togati: Tacitus' Germania & the Battle of Teutoburg*, 'Becoming Like God: Plato on Divine Ascent' (student) & Dr Richard Marshal 'Roman Numerals.'

Monday (afternoon staff lecture) – 'Digs & Theories: An Archaeology Workshop,' 'Ovid's Women: How Augustan Moral Reforms shaped Ovid's *Metamorphoses*' (student) & Dr Jane Ainsworth 'More than Words: How to Read Roman Inscriptions'

Tuesday (afternoon staff lecture) – Scansion, 'Venus in Visual Arts: Venus in Botticelli Paintings' (student) & Dr Lucy Jackson 'The Sound of Greek Drama.'

Wednesday (afternoon) - Lecture on 'The Hittites' & an optional trip to Hadrian's Wall or The Durham Oriental Museum & 'Remixing Antiquity: Kathleen Fraser's Textual & Visual Exchange with the Vindolanda Tablets' (student).

Thursday (afternoon staff lecture) – '(Dis)ability in Antiquity' & 'Teaching Latin in Schools, with a focus on SEN Students' & 'Stressing the Right Syllable': Quintilian on Correct Latin Word Prosody' & 'Does Ancient Literature Equate Might with Right?' (student) & Professor Clare Rowan 'The Roman World in Tokens.'

Friday – Formal meal & entertainments.

The 31st JACT Durham Greek & Latin Summer School was a resounding success, and we are excited to share that the 32nd JACT Durham Summer School will take place at St John's College, from Saturday 25th July to Saturday 1st August 2026.

www.durhamglss.org/