Oxford Classical Dictionary

- 4th and most recent edition
- This dictionary has its quirks, which I think are usually a reflection of trying to shoehorn things in Latin and Greek into an English language reference work.
- Things to keep in mind when you’re looking something up:
  - the “most familiar English version of the spelling” is usually used. (So, Jupiter starts with the letter ‘J’ instead of an ‘I’. It’s Ovid, instead of Ovidius)
  - Cross references will direct you to entries where there’s some ambiguity about which is the most familiar spelling. So, if you go to “Ulysses” there will be a cross reference to direct you to “Odysseus”.
  - Entries with the same name are ordered chronologically, with the mythological figures listed first.
  - Romans had their own naming conventions, and this dictionary lists Roman names by their family name.
    - Roman men usually had 3 names, and their family name was generally the one in the middle. For example, Julius Caesar had the full name Gaius Julius Caesar, and to look him up in the dictionary, he’s under “Julius” not “Caesar.”
    - Women did not use the three name convention, and were usually just known by a feminized version of the family name. So for the daughter of Julius Caesar, you would look up “Julia”.
    - Not always! If an emperor or literary figure is overwhelmingly known by a name that isn’t necessarily their family name, they are listed under that name. Like ‘Nero’.
    - There’s usually a cross-reference. But if you aren’t finding it under one part of the name, try a different name.
  - This is a dictionary, so there’s no index!
    - If you can’t find an entry on your topic, try looking up something a little less specific. For example, there’s no entry for The Iliad, but there’s a section about it under Homer.
- What you see in the entries themselves:
  - Cross references and additional entries are indicated with an * (instead of “see also”)
  - What are all these abbreviations?
    - Abbreviation key available in the front of the volume.
    - All caps (or mostly all caps) indicate initials of contributors or modern sources.
      - 2 lists, one alphabetically by abbreviation, the other alphabetically by author last name.
    - The other abbreviations indicate Classical authors, figures or works. Works are listed under authors and the abbreviations are italicized.
- So, if you're reading an entry and it includes a reference to Eur. Or. , you can check Eur. in the abbreviation key, and see it means Euripides, and then under this entry find Or. for the Orestes.
  - Standard things: further reading, handbooks, etc.

**Brill’s New Pauly: Encyclopedia of the Ancient World**

- English translations of a standard classics reference work published in German.
- Often just referred to by part of the title: New Pauly, or Brill’s.
- Has several facets
  - Classical tradition—covers the influence and aftermath of the classical world.
  - Atlas
  - Supplements
  - Antiquity, which is what I want to focus on.
- Antiquity covers “Greek and Roman culture in all its aspects”. Chronologically it ranges from about 2000 BCE – early medieval Europe. Geographically covers most of Europe, Northern Africa, and Asia Minor.
- Looking stuff up.
  - Follows similar conventions to OCD.
    - Most common English spelling.
    - Roman names listed by family names.
  - Index available