

Classics

Classics is the study of the cultures of the ancient Greeks and Romans and the people they directly affected. Its major subfields include the Greek and Latin languages from the earliest records until the Middle Ages; the literary and philosophical works composed in these languages; Greek and Roman art, architecture, science and technology; Greek and Roman political and social institutions such as religious beliefs and practices, laws and legal procedures, the organization of states, the conduct of warfare, and expressions of gender, sexuality, age, and class; and the recovery, evaluation, and preservation of the material remains of Greek and Roman culture, including writing inscribed in stone or metal or on papyrus and other paper-like media.

Pursuing Classics at Ohio State

Students wishing to major in Latin would benefit by taking as much high school Latin as possible.

All Ohio State freshman applicants are considered within a competitive admission process for the Columbus campus. The primary criteria for admission are the completion of the applicant's high school college preparatory program, performance in that program as indicated by class rank and/or grade-point average, and performance on either the ACT or SAT. Upon admission to the university, students can declare a major in classics within the Arts and Humanities. Interested students should contact the Director of Undergraduate Studies in the Department of Greek and Latin and the Arts and Sciences.

Classics Requirements

Classics is divided into five areas of concentration.

Classical Humanities core courses:

- Ancient Greek Literature in Translation
- Roman Literature in Translation
- Classical Mythology
- Classical Civilization: Greece
- Classical Civilization: Rome
- At least 15 hours of upper division courses in Greek and Roman literature and society
- Senior Tutorial and Essay
- Additional electives (Ancient History, Philosophy, or other related fields) to total 50 credits toward the major.

Greek required prerequisites:

- Greek 101 through 104 or the equivalent
- At least 15 credits in Greek literature at the intermediate level, at least 10 credits in Greek literature at the advanced level, plus additional electives in Greek or related fields to total 40 credits toward the major.

Latin required prerequisites:

- Latin 101 through 104 or the equivalent
- At least 15 credits of Latin literature at the intermediate level
- At least 10 credits in Latin literature at the advanced level
- Additional electives in Latin or related fields to total 40 credits toward the major

Greek and Latin requirements:

- 40 hours, arranged in consultation with the major advisor

Classics and Ancient History requirements:

- 50 hours, arranged in consultation with the major advisor

Co-Curricular Opportunities

Ohio State offers many opportunities for students to learn and grow outside of the classroom. These range from cooperative education (co-op) and internships to study abroad programs to student organizations. Co-ops and internships place students in professional environments while they are Ohio State students. Ohio State offers more than 100 study abroad programs in 40 countries around the world. In addition, there are hundreds of student organizations on campus to meet the interests of a diverse student population.

These experiences enable students to gain valuable work experience, learn about cultures, and take on leadership roles before they enter the workforce. All of these experiences enhance learning and may provide an advantage in the job market.

Study Abroad in Classics

The Department of Greek and Latin encourages participation in study abroad programs such as the College Year in Athens, the Summer Programs of the American School of Classical Studies in Athens, and the programs sponsored by the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome. The department also offers a topography course that includes a trip to Italy. The department provides some funding. For details, visit greekandlatin.osu.edu/undergradstudies/studyAbroad.cfm.

Classics Honorary Society

Undergraduate majors and minors are invited to participate in Eta Sigma Phi, a countrywide Honorary Greek Letter Society. Its purposes are to develop and promote interest in Classical study among students of Ohio State and to provide contacts with Classical studies at other universities.

For more information, check these web sites:

Classics: greekandlatin.osu.edu

Arts and Humanities: artsandhumanities.osu.edu

Ohio State: osu.edu

Admissions: undergrad.osu.edu

Multicultural Center: multiculturalcenter.osu.edu

First Year Experience Program: fye.osu.edu

Curriculum Sample

This is a sample list of classes a student may take to pursue a degree in Classics. Since university students need more than specific education in a narrow field, they also will take classes to complete the General Education Curriculum (GEC). The GEC will allow students to develop the fundamental skills essential to collegiate success across major programs. Course work options satisfying the GEC often come from a variety of academic areas of study allowing students to tailor their GEC toward their interests. Note: This sample represents one of several possible paths to a degree in Classics. Consult the departmental web site, greekandlatin.osu.edu, for details on each specific track.

Freshman Year:

Ancient Greek Literature in Translation	5
Classical Mythology	5
GEC courses and electives	40
Arts and Humanities Survey	1
Freshman Seminar	1
Total hours	52

Sophomore Year:

Classical Civilization: Greece	5
Classical Civilization: Rome	5
The New Testament	5
GEC courses and electives	35
Total hours	50

Junior Year:

Greek and Roman Epic	5
Greek and Roman Drama	5
Art of the Ancient World	5
GEC courses and electives	30
Total hours	45

Senior Year:

Senior Tutorial and Essay	5
Women in Greece and Rome	5
Ancient Philosophy	5
GEC courses and electives	30
Total hours	45

Honors & Scholars Programs

Ohio State offers the Honors and Scholars programs to create an environment of intellectual support and stimulation within a close-knit community of high-ability undergraduate students. Through these programs, students have access to smaller classes, undergraduate research opportunities, close working relationships with faculty, priority scheduling, and unique housing options.

Honors and Scholars programs represent great opportunities to be part of a smaller community within a large university. Good candidates for these programs are invited to apply upon admission to the university. For more information about these opportunities, refer to the Honors and Scholars web site at honors-scholars.osu.edu.

Career Prospects in Classics

Graduates in Classics find their marketable skills considerably enhanced by their humanities education. A major in Classics, Greek, or Latin properly coordinated with a minor in some other subject and relevant specialized coursework, provides excellent preparation for a career in medicine, business, law, politics, government, and many other nonacademic areas of employment. Besides these fields, students who achieve an MA in Latin stand an excellent chance of making successful careers as secondary school Latin teachers. Achievement of the PhD may lead to an academic career as a professor of Greek and Latin literature, ancient philosophy, ancient history, or archaeology.

Graduates with a Classics degree have chosen jobs such as media planner with Needham Harper Worldwide, associate publisher with Writer's Digest, coordinator at the Ohio Arts Council, and manager of the Boys Club of Columbus.

Career Counseling and Job Placement

Students can explore career options in classics by utilizing Career Connection as well as the Arts and Sciences Career Services Office. Providing complimentary services, Career Connection focuses on helping students establish a career direction, while the Arts and Sciences Career Services Office assists students with finding internships—experiences that are essential to testing out the suitability of career fields they are considering. Located in 48 Townshend Hall, the Arts and Sciences Career Services Office also assists seniors and recent graduates with finding entry-level career employment. More information about both offices is found at asccareerservices.osu.edu and careerconnection.osu.edu.

Revised September 2009. For the most up-to-date information on the classics program, please visit greekandlatin.osu.edu.

Contact information:

Department of Greek and Latin | 414 University Hall
230 North Oval Mall | Columbus, Ohio 43210-1319
(614) 292-2744