Classics

Classics is the study of the languages, literatures and cultures of ancient Greece and Rome and their enduring impact. Its core focus is on the Greek and Latin languages from the earliest records until the Middle Ages and on the key works of literature written in these languages. Major subfields include the topics of history, politics, philosophy, art, architecture, archaeology, science, medicine, technology, religion, mythology, magic, law, war, gender and sexuality in Greek and Roman cultures and their legacies.

Pursuing Classics at Ohio State
Students wishing to major in Latin would benefit by taking as much high school Latin as possible.

All freshman applicants are considered within a competitive admission process; find admissions criteria at go.osu.edu/admissions. Upon admission to the university, students can declare a major in classics within the College of Arts and Sciences. Interested students should contact the director of Undergraduate Studies in the Department of Classics and the Arts and Sciences.

Classics Requirements
Classics is divided into four areas of concentration.

Classical Humanities:
- Prerequisite: Introduction to Classical Literature
- At least 18 hours in classics literature and culture courses including a senior thesis option
- At least 15 hours electives in related fields to total 33 hours toward the major

Classical Greek:
- Prerequisites: Greek Language Sequence
- At least 9 hours in Greek literature at the intermediate level
- At least 6 credits in Greek literature at the advanced level
- Electives in Greek or related fields to total 30 credits toward the major

Latin:
- Prerequisites: Latin Language Sequence
- At least 9 hours in Latin literature at the intermediate level
- At least 6 credits in Latin literature at the advanced level
- Electives in Latin or related fields to total 30 credits toward the major

Greek and Latin:
- Prerequisites: Greek and Latin Language Sequences
- At least 9 hours in Greek and/or Latin literature at the intermediate level
- At least 6 credits in Greek and/or Latin literature at the advanced level
- Electives in Greek, Latin or related fields to total 30 credits toward the major

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 Classics 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 of Classics also offers courses that include short-term study abroad programs to Greece and Italy. The department provides some funding. For details, visit classics.osu.edu.

Classics Honorary Society
Undergraduate majors and minors are invited to join the Classics Club and also Eta Sigma Phi, a countrywide Honorary Greek Letter Society whose purpose is 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 websites:
Classics: classics.osu.edu
Arts and Sciences: artsandsciences.osu.edu
Ohio State: osu.edu
Admissions: undergrad.osu.edu
Multicultural Center: multiculturalcenter.osu.edu
First Year Experience: 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 General Education (GE) requirements. Because GE courses come from a variety of academic areas of study, this course work helps students develop fundamental skills essential to collegiate success and allows them to tailor these courses toward their interests. Note: This sample represents one of several possible paths to a degree in Classics. Consult the departmental website, classics.osu.edu, for details on each specific track.

Freshman Year:
Freshman Seminar 1
Introduction to Classical Literature 3
Classical Mythology 3
GE courses and electives 24
Total hours 31

Sophomore Year:
Classical Civilization: Greece 3
Classical Civilization: Rome 3
Introduction to the New Testament: History and Literature 3
GE courses and electives 21
Total hours 30

Junior Year:
Greek and Roman Epic 3
Greek and Roman Drama 3
Western Art of the Ancient and Medieval Worlds 3
GE courses and electives 18
Total hours 27

Senior Year:
Senior Tutorial and Essay 3
Classical Archaeology 3
History of Ancient Philosophy 3
GE courses and electives 18
Total hours 27

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. For more information about these opportunities, visit 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 in coordination with a minor in some other subject and relevant specialized course work provides excellent preparation for a career in medicine, business, law, education, politics, government, media, publishing and many other areas of employment. Besides these fields, students who achieve an MA or MEd in Latin stand an excellent chance of making successful careers as secondary school Latin or Greek instructors. 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 January 2014. Information subject to change. For the most up-to-date information on the classics program, please visit classics.osu.edu.