Classical Studies

Director: Robert A. Kugler
Administrative Coordinator: Claire Kodachi

Classical studies is an interdisciplinary field focused on the study of ancient Greece and Rome, as well as the influences on them from the neighboring cultures of Egypt and the Near East. Echoes of Greece and Rome saturate our culture, from the shapes of our traditional buildings to the political institutions we embrace, from the mythological stories that reappear in our literature and art to the intellectual disciplines that form the liberal arts. The Classical Studies Program seeks to provide students the opportunity to gain intellectual grounding in a minor program that explores our debts to the ancient Greeks and Romans.

In addition to their historical significance, Greek and Roman works of art, literature, and philosophy have substantial continuing value, and the Classical Studies Program exposes students to many of the great works of these cultures. Serious engagement with these works can be forever enriching.

The Minor Program

The minor is inherently interdisciplinary. The courses required for the minor include two classical studies courses and an appropriate balance of disciplinary perspective within the minor and courses in a minimum of three of the traditional academic disciplines, including Greek or Latin language through 201. A student may choose specific courses of interest within Greco-Roman studies, but the minor grows from the foundation course CLAS 200 Introduction to Classical Studies and culminates in CLAS 450 Topics in Classical Studies. For Latin and Greek course listings, see Foreign Languages and Literatures. (http://docs.lclark.edu/catalog/archive/2012-2013/undergraduate/foreignlanglit/)

Minor Requirements

A minimum of 28 semester credits are required, distributed as follows:

- CLAS 200 Introduction to Classical Studies
- CLAS 450 Topics in Classical Studies
- Three language courses in Greek or Latin, chosen from the following:
  - GRK 101 Classical Greek I
  - GRK 102 Classical Greek II
  - GRK 201 Readings in Hellenistic and Classical Greek
  - LATN 101 Beginning Latin I
  - LATN 102 Beginning Latin II
  - LATN 201 Intermediate Latin I

- Eight semester credits from a minimum of two disciplines, selected from a list of approved electives that usually include the following (when available), as well as relevant history courses listed as 298 or 398:

  **Art**
  - ART 101 History of Western Art: Ancient to Medieval

  **English**
  - ENG 279 Classical Backgrounds

  **Greek**
  - GRK 101 Classical Greek I
  - GRK 102 Classical Greek II
  - GRK 201 Readings in Hellenistic and Classical Greek

  **History**
  - HIST 219 Ancient Rome: From Republic to Empire

  **Latin**
  - LATN 101 Beginning Latin I
  - LATN 102 Beginning Latin II
  - LATN 201 Intermediate Latin I

  **Philosophy**
  - PHIL 301 Ancient Western Philosophy
  - PHIL 451 Philosophical Studies: History of Philosophy
  - PHIL 452 Philosophical Studies: Topics in Value Theory
  - PHIL 453 Philosophical Studies: Advanced Themes in Philosophy

  **Political Science**
  - POLS 310 Pillars of Western Political Thought: Plato to Machiavelli

  **Religious Studies**
  - RELS 224 Jewish Origins
  - RELS 225 Christian Origins
  - RELS 334 Lost Books of Early Judaism
  - RELS 450 Seminar: Social and Religious World of Early Judaism and Christianity

  **Theatre**
  - TH 281 Theatre and Society I: Classical and Medieval Drama

At least 16 semester credits must be discrete to the minor (may not be used in any other set of major or minor requirements).

Faculty


Eleonora Maria Beck. James W. Rogers Professor of Music. Medieval and Renaissance music history; contemporary American, popular, and women’s music.


**CLAS 200 Introduction to Classical Studies**
Faculty: Kelly.
Content: Survey of various aspects of the expression of primary Greek and/or Roman cultural values, as they are found in the history, religion, visual arts, literature, theatre, and philosophy of ancient Greece and/or Rome. Works will be read in translations. An introductory course intended for first- and second-year students.
Prerequisites: None.
Usually offered: Annually.
Semester credits: 4.

**CLAS 251 History of Byzantium**
Faculty: Classical Studies Faculty.
Content: The transformation of the eastern Roman Empire into a Greek Orthodox medieval empire and the creation of a separate identity for the Byzantine state and society. Topics include the organization of the Byzantine state; the development and defining features of Byzantine civilization; relations between Byzantium and the Latin West, the Slavic world, and Islam; the pivotal and unique role of Byzantium; and the factors that led to the decline of the empire and the eventual fall of Constantinople. Taught on the Greek overseas program.
Prerequisites: None.
Restrictions: Acceptance into the overseas program in Greece.
Usually offered: Alternate Years.
Semester credits: 4.

**CLAS 252 Art and Archaeology of the Aegean**
Faculty: Classical Studies Faculty.
Content: Survey of the art and archaeology of the ancient civilizations of the Aegean and Greece: Minoan, Mycenaean, and Classical Greek. Introduction to primary sources. Visits to sites, monuments, and museums are complemented by classroom lectures and readings that provide historical context. Taught on the Greece overseas program.
Prerequisites: None.
Restrictions: Acceptance into the Greece overseas program.
Usually offered: Alternate Years.
Semester credits: 4.

**CLAS 253 Attic Tragedy**
Faculty: Classical Studies Faculty.
Content: Ancient Athenian tragedy as represented by the extant plays of Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides, studied in its social, political, topographical, and religious/philosophical context. Participants visit the precinct of Dionysos, on the south slope of the Acropolis, and other ancient theaters. Students will be expected to perform selections. Taught on Greece overseas program.
Prerequisites: None.
Restrictions: Acceptance into the Greece overseas program.
Usually offered: Alternate Years.
Semester credits: 4.
CLAS 254 Ancient Greek Myth and Religion  
Faculty: Scahill (Greece)  
Content: Survey of ancient Greek myth and religion. Using a wide range of literary and visual sources from the archaeological record, examines the function and uses of myth; its relationship to religion, daily life, history, and cultural norms; religious ritual and function; the particularity of myth to a given locale; and the interpretation of myth and its methodologies. Taught on Greece overseas program.  
Prerequisites: None.  
Restrictions: Acceptance to Greece overseas program.  
Usually offered: Alternate Years, fall semester.  
Semester credits: 4.

CLAS 450 Topics in Classical Studies  
Content: Serious scholarly study of some specific topic or area within classical studies. Topics may include Greek or Roman archaeology, architecture, art, epic or lyric poetry, comedy, history, music, tragedy, philosophy, political theory, religion, or ancient science, or else comparative study of some aspect of ancient Greek or Roman culture with others. May be taken twice for credit with change of topic.  
Prerequisites: CLAS 200 or consent of instructor.  
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required.  
Usually offered: Annually.  
Semester credits: 4.