CLASSICS, BA

Degree: Bachelor of Arts (BA)
Major: Classics

Program Overview

The core of all our Classics majors is the study of the languages and literatures of ancient Greece and Rome and the societies that spoke Greek and Latin until the end of the ancient world (usually taken as the 5th century of the Common Era). We have four different concentrations: Greek, Latin, Greek & Latin, or Classical Civilization (the latter requiring less language proficiency). These different concentrations uniquely offer exposure to a range of approaches: literary, philological, historical, archaeological, art historical, philosophical, and anthropological. In addition, we now offer several courses on the Ancient Near East and Egypt for a wider perspective on the ancient world.

Study in Related Fields

Each student completing the Classics major is strongly advised to choose a minor, selected in consultation with and approved by the departmental advisor, in such closely related fields as Ancient Near Eastern and Egyptian Studies, Anthropology, Art History, Philosophy, Comparative Literature, History, Theater, or English.

Teacher Licensure

This program offers a special option for undergraduate students who wish to pursue this major and a career in teaching. The Teacher Education Program prepares CWRU students to receive an Ohio Teaching License for grades K-12 (Multi-Age) or grades 7-12 (Adolescent to Young Adult (AYA)) depending on major area of study. Students declare a second major in education—which involves 36 hours in education and practicum requirements—and complete a planned sequence of major content coursework within the context of this major. The program is designed to offer several unique features not found in other programs and to place students in mentored teaching situations throughout their teacher preparation career. This small, rigorous program is designed to capitalize on the strengths of CWRU’s departments, its Teacher Education Program, and the relationships the university has built with area schools. For the subject area requirements for teacher licensure, please visit the program page for the Teacher Education, BA.

Undergraduate Policies

For undergraduate policies and procedures, please review the Office of Undergraduate Studies section of the General Bulletin.

Accelerated Master's Programs

Undergraduate students may participate in accelerated programs toward graduate or professional degrees. For more information and details of the policies and procedures related to accelerated studies, please visit the Office of Undergraduate Studies section of the General Bulletin.

Program Requirements

Students seeking to complete this major and degree program must meet the general requirements for bachelor’s degrees and the general requirements of the College of Arts and Sciences. Students completing this program as a secondary major while completing another undergraduate degree program do not need to satisfy the latter set of requirements.

There are two separate concentrations in the Classics major. Philology (Concentration A) is devoted to ancient languages and their associated literatures in the original languages (Greek, Latin, or Greek and Latin). Classical Civilization (Concentration B) focuses on ancient history, literature in translation, and archaeology. Please note that for Concentration B, students must complete study of either Greek or Latin to at least the intermediate level.

Each track requires 10 courses (30 hours), and at least two of these courses must be at the 300 level. For students who elect to complete their junior and senior year SAGES requirements in Classics, two additional courses (6 hours) are required, CLSC 320 Alexander the Great: Materials and Methods and CLSC 381 Classics Senior Capstone. (CLSC 320 may count as one of the Classics 300-level courses, provided the student takes their junior SAGES requirements outside of classics.)

Departmental Honors

Departmental honors are given to students who earn the grade of A for their senior dissertation in CLSC 382 and maintain a GPA in the major of 3.5.

Concentration Requirements

In the Philology Concentration (A), students can earn one of three degrees: BA in Classics: Greek; BA in Classics: Latin; or BA in Classics: Greek and Latin. Students in Concentration A are required to take CLSC 231 Athens to Alexandria: The World of Ancient Greece and CLSC 232 Gods and Gladiators: The World of Ancient Rome, then any combination of eight GREK or LATN courses, at least two of which (6 hours) must be at the 300-level. To receive the BA in Classics: Greek and Latin, students must complete at least one year of their second language.

In the Classical Civilization Concentration (B), students are required to take CLSC 231 Athens to Alexandria: The World of Ancient Greece and CLSC 232 Gods and Gladiators: The World of Ancient Rome; at least one 200-level or higher GREK or LATN course (for most students, this will mean taking GREK 101, GREK 102, and GREK 201 or LATN 101, LATN 102, and LATN 201); and any combination of GREK, LATN, or CLSC courses to bring their course total to 10 (30 hours), at least two of which must be at the 300 level.