

DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS

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More Information: <http://classics.case.edu>

The Department of Classics introduces students to the culture, life, and legacy of ancient Greece and Rome through courses in the Greek and Latin languages and literatures, in ancient history, archaeology and medicine, and in the visual and material cultures of the ancient Mediterranean world, including the Ancient Near East and Egypt. The department faculty represents a range of academic disciplines and is committed, where appropriate, to an interdisciplinary approach in teaching and research.

The core purpose of the department is to offer the opportunity for study of the ancient classical languages, as well as Akkadian and Egyptian hieroglyphs, as a crucial point of entry into the conceptual worlds of Greece, Rome, and the Ancient Near East and Egypt. Students are also exposed to the various facets of antiquity, particularly its mingling of cultures and belief systems, that made the ancient Mediterranean world the progenitor of the modern West and an enduring influence on global culture. The different subdisciplines and methodologies represented in the department involve multiple ways of exploring and understanding antiquity. Our students explore the philological, literary, historical, social, and philosophical dimensions of ancient texts, and they engage with material and visual culture and city form through archaeology, epigraphy, and art and architectural history.

Knowledge of antiquity constitutes the backbone of a liberal education and is useful for further professional training in whatever field a student may ultimately pursue. It also provides an excellent basis for informed engagement with the political, social, and cultural issues of our turbulent times, as well as for the appreciation and enjoyment of artistic and cultural achievement. A major or minor in classics or in the ancient Near East and Egypt may be profitably combined with programs aimed toward law, medicine, management, diplomatic service, banking, journalism, library science, or politics; religious, philosophic, literary, or historical studies; careers in the fine arts (visual or performing); or museum and archival work.

Department Faculty

Paul A. Iversen, PhD
 (The Ohio State University)
Associate Professor and Chair

Greek and Latin epigraphy; Hellenistic history and culture; Greek and Roman New Comedy

Evelyn Adkins, PhD
 (University of Michigan)
Associate Professor

Latin literature; the ancient novel; gender and sexuality; Roman social history

Maddalena Rumor, PhD
 (Freie Universität, Berlin)
Assistant Professor

Ancient Babylonian medicine and science

Rachel Sternberg, PhD
 (Bryn Mawr College)
Professor

Greek language and literature; Greek social history; history of emotion; reception of the classical tradition in the age of Jefferson

Timothy Wutrich, PhD
 (Tufts University)
Senior Instructor

Greek and Roman drama; Vergil; the Classical Tradition in literature and the arts

Lecturers

Aaron L. Beek, PhD
 (University of Minnesota)
Full-time Lecturer
 Classical and Near Eastern Studies

Mark Hammond, PhD
 (University of Missouri)
Lecturer
 Late Roman Ceramics & Society

Cooperating Faculty

Maggie L. Popkin, PhD
 (Institute of Fine Arts, New York University)
Professor, Department of Art History and Art
 Ancient Roman art and archaeology

Deepak Sarma, PhD
 (University of Chicago)
Professor, Department of Religious Studies
 Hinduism; Indian philosophy; method and theory in the study of religion

Adjunct Faculty

Karen Laurence, PhD
 (University of Michigan)
Assistant Director of Faculty and Alumni Engagement; Adjunct Assistant Professor
 Greek sanctuaries and games under Roman rule

Meghan Strong, PhD
 (Cambridge University)
Adjunct Assistant Professor
 Ancient Egyptian art and archaeology

Emeriti

Jenifer Neils, PhD
 (Bryn Mawr)
Elsie B. Smith Professor in the Liberal Arts Emerita
<https://researchguides.case.edu/faculty-authors/JeniferNeils>
 Greek art history

Programs

- Ancient Near Eastern and Egyptian Studies, BA
- Ancient Near Eastern and Egyptian Studies, Minor
- Classical Studies, MA
- Classics, BA
- Classics, Minor

Dual Degrees

- Programs Toward Graduate or Professional Degrees

Departmental Graduate Certificate in Classics

The purpose of a graduate certificate program in classics, known in our wider discipline as a post-baccalaureate certificate—or “post-bac” for short—is to prepare students who started “late” with Greek and Latin (i.e., after high school) for graduate work in classics and related fields such as philosophy, art history, and medieval studies. As a rule, such students need to solidify their language skills and gain experience in reading large quantities of Greek and/or Latin at an advanced speed. Students planning graduate study will have a way to prepare themselves without impossible pressures and time constraints. It takes many years of patient study to master Greek and Latin; one must devote hours to the project every single day. Few people are able to progress satisfactorily in ancient languages on their own, without instruction and without peers.

Our one-year program provides a bridge to full-fledged graduate study, although some individuals may choose to pursue our certificate simply as a means of enriching their lives.

We give post-bac students training in Greek and Latin, and the guidance they need to gain admittance into MA and PhD programs in classics and other humanities disciplines. Here at CWRU, our post-bac students regularly interact not only with our advanced undergraduate classics majors but also with graduate students in history, English, and art history, among other fields. This blending furnishes them with useful perspectives on the realities of doctoral studies in the humanities.