Classics

The Department of Classics is committed to the threefold study of antiquity via the languages and literatures, the history, and the art and architectural remains. Washington University possesses an internationally recognized resource in the John Max Wulfing Coin Collection. The coins can be applied to studies in numismatics, history, economics, and art. The department possesses its own large archive of epigraphical and papyrological materials, and a small collection of papyri is also housed in Olin Library. Opportunities for collaboration exist with numerous other departments and programs.

Students may obtain a Master of Arts in Classics by completing 36 units of credit (all at the graduate level, including some required courses), completing a Greek and Latin reading list, and taking a series of examinations. A thesis, normally involving 3 units of supervised research during the second year of study, is not a required component but is strongly recommended for students who plan eventually to pursue a PhD in Classics.

Examinations for the AM include sight translation exams in Greek and Latin during the first year of study and translation exams based on reading lists in the same languages. Students not planning to go on to a PhD program in Classics may opt to take the exam in Greek or Latin only. Those who pursue this option must still complete a minimum of 6 credits of graduate-level course work in the other language. All students are also required to demonstrate ability to read scholarly prose in either French or German, through examination or course work.

Students may obtain a Doctor of Philosophy in Classics by completing 72 units of credit for course work (57 credits, all at the graduate level) and research. The program consists of 1) rigorous training in Greek and Latin languages and literatures, culminating in mastery of a list of Greek and Latin authors and relevant scholarship, 2) broad training in the subfields of Classics and all aspects of Greco-Roman cultures, by means of both a general “Materials & Methods” proseminar and seminars focusing on topics such as history, material culture, and philosophy, and 3) the rigorous cultivation of special fields, initially through course work and later through independent research. Candidates will be examined in all these areas, and the skills and expertise acquired will be combined in the dissertation project. They will also demonstrate competence in reading scholarly prose in German and either French or Italian. Finally, candidates will gain experience teaching the core parts of the Classics curriculum: the Greek and Latin languages and topics in Greco-Roman civilization. One of the required graduate courses will be concerned with Classics pedagogy.

PhD candidates have the option to pursue, in addition to the above requirements, one of several special interdisciplinary tracks: Ancient History, Ancient Performance, Ancient Music, and Ancient Philosophy. Requirements for these tracks include courses in affiliated departments, concentration on the track area in the special field exam and dissertation, and in some cases additional projects.

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Chair

Timothy Moore
John and Penelope Biggs Distinguished Professor of Classics, Department Chair
PhD, University of North Carolina
Professor Moore’s work concentrates on several areas of classical antiquity, including the comic theatre of Greece and Rome, Greek and Roman music, and Roman historiography. Current projects include a book on music in Roman tragedy, articles on the history and performance of Roman comedy, and a long-range project on the influence on the modern world of the Roman historian Livy. He also has interests in the history of theatre, especially American musical theatre and Japanese Kyogen comedy.

Associate Professors

William Bubelis
Director of Undergraduate Studies; Curator of the Wulfing Coin Collection
PhD, University of Chicago
Greek history and epigraphy (especially Athens and the Peloponnesian, and Northern Greece); Economic history and numismatics (particularly taxation and fiscal behavior, banking, numeracy); Ancient religion and its institutional dimensions, especially as they intersect with economics; Attic oratory and historiography; the political economy of the ancient Near East (especially Iron Age Mesopotamia, Cyprus, and the Achaemenid Empire)

Catherine Keane
Director of Graduate Studies
PhD, University of Pennsylvania
Professor Keane’s research and teaching interests range broadly over Greek and Roman literature and culture, but center on the comic genres and their engagement with moral, social, and literary problems. Her research focuses on the Roman verse satirists Horace, Persius, and Juvenal.

Assistant Professors

Roshan Abraham
PhD, University of Pennsylvania
Early Christianity and Greco-Roman Religions; Magic and Divination; Greek Prose of the Second Sophistic and Late Antiquity; Theurgy and Neoplatonism; Travel and Pilgrimage in Antiquity
Karen Acton  
PhD, University of Michigan  
The history of Rome, especially in the late Republic and early Empire; Roman historiography; Roman numismatics

Thomas Keeline  
PhD, Harvard University  
Latin literature; history of classical scholarship and education from antiquity to the present; rhetoric; textual criticism; lexicography; metrics

Luis Alejandro Salas  
PhD, University of Texas  
Greek and Roman medicine, philosophy, and intellectual history; medical and philosophical sectarianism; Galen of Pergamum; Aristotelian psychology; Greek prose

Lecturers  
Kristin Mann  
PhD, University of California, Los Angeles  
Kristin Mann's main research interests are the Greek and Latin fable collections, the literature and culture of the early Roman Empire, and the ancient Greek novel. Her dissertation, The Fabulist in the Fable Book, examines how the presence of the fabulist in the fable book — his biography, his self-characterizations, and his statements of purpose — combine to form a hermeneutic frame through which the fables may be interpreted.

Kathryn Wilson  
PhD, University of Pennsylvania  
Kathryn Wilson's research interests focus on the intersection of poetry and science. She is especially interested in Hellenistic literature and the relationship between different intellectual enterprises occurring during that time. She is also interested in the evolution of the genre of didactic poetry.

Professors Emeriti  
Carl W. Conrad  
PhD, Harvard University

Robert D. Lamberton  
PhD, Yale University

George M. Pepe  
PhD, Princeton University

Susan I. Rotroff  
PhD, Princeton University

Merritt Sale  
PhD, Cornell University

Degree Requirements

**AM in Classics**

Candidates may obtain an AM degree in Classics by completing 36 graduate units of credit, completing a reading list, and taking a series of examinations. Students planning to continue in the Classics department's PhD program must also write a master's thesis. Others may choose to complete the AM with or without a thesis.

**Course work: 36 hours, including:**

**Specific required courses: 6 hours**

L08 Classics 502: Research and Publication on the Greek and Roman World - a proseminar on materials and methods of the profession (3 credits)

L08 Classics 510: Comparative Grammar of Greek and Latin (3 credits, offered every 2 years, alternating with 502)

**Other course requirements: 27 hours (for AM with thesis)**

All credits must be at the 400 level or above.

At least 6 credits in Greek (L09) (one or more options is offered every semester)

At least 6 credits in Latin (L10) (one or more options is offered every semester)

Most remaining courses will be in Greek, Latin, and Classics. With the guidance of the Director of Graduate Studies, students may take 3 units of course work outside of the Classics department.

**Research Credits: 3 hours**

The master's thesis counts for 3 credits. A student opting not to write a thesis will substitute another course.

**Modern language competence:**

German, French or Italian; the requirement may be fulfilled by course work or examination.

**Program exams:**

Greek and Latin Sight Reading, X 2

Greek Reading List

Latin Reading List

Students not planning to go on to a PhD program in Classics may opt to take the Reading List exam in one language (Greek or Latin) only. Those who pursue this option must still complete at least 6 credits in the other language at the 400 level. The examination will require the student to demonstrate competence in translation and interpretation, as well as knowledge of the relevant scholarship.

**PhD in Classics**

The Classics PhD requires 72 graduate units of course work and research in combination. Up to 24 of these credits may be transferred from an outside AM program in Classics, at the discretion of the Graduate Committee. (Requirements listed below include requirements for the AM in Classics at Washington University.) All credits must be at the 400 level or above. With
the guidance of the Director of Graduate Studies, students may take up to 12 credits outside the Classics department to enhance their graduate study.

**Course work: 57 hours, including:**

**Specific required courses: 9 hours**

L08 Classics 502: Research & Publication on the Greek and Roman World - a proseminar on materials and methods of the profession (3 credits)

L08 Classics 510: Comparative Grammar of Greek and Latin (3 credits, offered every 2 years, alternating with 502)

L08 Classics 515: A pedagogy course (3 credits, to be offered every two years)

**Other course requirements: 30 hours**

At least 12 credits in Greek (L09) (one or more options is offered every semester)

At least 12 credits in Latin (L10) (one or more options is offered every semester)

At least 3 credits in ancient history (at least one course will be offered every two years)

At least 3 additional credits in Classics (L08) (at least one course will be offered every year)

**Elective courses: 18 hours**

Includes courses for individual tracks, optional independent studies in preparation for exams, and other courses, to be chosen after consultation with the Director of Graduate Studies.

**Research Credits: 15 hours**

Master's thesis: 3 hours

Dissertation credits: 12 hours

**Program exams:**

Greek and Latin Sight Reading, X 2

Greek Reading List

Latin Reading List

Comprehensive Exam

Special Field Exam

**Modern language competence:**

German and French or German and Italian; the requirement may be fulfilled by course work or examination in each case.

**Dissertation requirements:**

Dissertation prospectus

Dissertation colloquium

Dissertation

Dissertation defense