

Classics, PhD

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Mentored Experience Implementation Plan

As part of their degree requirements, PhD students must complete a program-defined Mentored Experience Requirement (MER) as per these guidelines. The Mentored Experience Implementation Plan (MEIP) is the written articulation of a program-defined degree requirement for PhD students to engage in mentored teaching activities and/or mentored professional activities, collectively referred to as *MERs*.

Mentored Experience Requirements (MERs)

Philosophy of Teaching

The Classics department takes pride in its commitment to pedagogy and teacher training. The skills gained in our Mentored Teaching Experiences (MTEs) are essential for our PhD graduates looking to pursue careers in secondary or higher education. Moreover, the ability to synthesize and distill complex information and explain it to an audience of non-specialists in understandable and memorable ways is also of wide application beyond academia — in almost any career.

Preparatory Engagement

Preparatory Engagement activities are those that represent an introduction to the foundational skills associated with teaching or communication. Pedagogical preparation engagement activities are normally completed before students are permitted to engage in assisting or teaching in a classroom.

Classics requires three Preparatory Engagement activities:

1. Center for Teaching and Learning's teaching orientation
2. Departmental teaching orientation is mandatory before students begin serving as Assistants in Instruction (AIs).
3. Departmental course in pedagogy: Classics 5050 is offered every two years and may be completed concurrently while serving as an AI.

Mentored Teaching Experiences (MTEs)

Assistant in Instruction (AI)

An Assistant in Instruction (AI) is a PhD student who is directly engaged in the organization, instruction, and/or support of a semester-long course *primarily taught by a faculty member*. An AI receives mentorship from a faculty member related to best practices in classroom

engagement, instruction in the field, interpersonal engagement, and other relevant skills. Students and mentors complete a mentorship plan prior to the start of each AI experience. To complete each AI assignment and to ensure that it applies toward their degree requirements, students must register for the appropriate course number for each semester of engagement. Refer to the "Required Pathways for Completion" section below for course numbers and details.

Classics requires 40 MER units of AI assignments based on the following units by course:

- 10 MER units = Class in which PhD students do not lead a weekly discussion section (but rather only attend lectures, hold office hours, assist with grading, and so forth)
- 15 MER units = Class in which PhD students lead a weekly discussion section

Mentored Independent Teaching (MIT)

MIT is a semester-long experience for PhD students who engage as the primary instructor or co-instructor of a course *under the mentorship of a faculty member* as part of the MER. Students and mentors complete a mentorship plan prior to the start of each MIT experience. To complete each MIT assignment and to ensure that it applies toward their degree requirements, students must register for the appropriate course number (ASGS 8020) for each semester of engagement. Refer to the "Required Pathways for Completion" section below for more details.

Students complete three MITs over the course of their time in the program. MITs will typically include introductory and intermediate Latin and Greek language courses, but they may also include other courses, depending on a variety of factors.

PhD students will ordinarily begin teaching during their second year in the program. Many students will then teach in years 2, 3, and 4, but the details of when they teach and what they teach will be tailored to the needs and specific academic plans of individual students. Many pathways are possible.

Required Pathways for Completion

Students work with their faculty mentor and their Director of Graduate Studies to plan how and when they will complete their MERs. Students register during the normal registration period for courses in accordance with one of these approved pathways.

- Preparatory Engagement

ASGS 8010	Take one time
ASGS 8015	Take two times
ASGS 8020	Take three times