Classics

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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 applying 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.

Courses

36 units, including the following:

Specific required courses: 9 units
- Classics 503 Classical Studies: Theories, Methods & Practice (3 units), a proseminar on materials, methods, and professional issues in Classics (offered every two years)
- Greek 445 Greek Prose Composition (offered every 2 years)
- Latin 444 Latin Prose Composition (offered every 2 years)

Other course requirements: 21 units (for AM with thesis)
- At least 6 units in Greek (L09) (two options are offered every semester)
- At least 6 units in Latin (L10) (two or more options are offered every semester)

Most remaining courses will be in Greek, Latin and Classics. All must be at the 400 level or above, and the majority — especially during the second year of study — should be at the 500 level. With the guidance of the director of graduate studies, students may take 3 course units outside of the Classics department.

Research credits: 6 units

The master's thesis counts for 6 units. Any student opting not to write a thesis will fulfill these units with additional courses.

Modern Language Competence

This competence can be in German, French or Italian; the requirement may be fulfilled by courses or examination.

Program Exams

- Greek Reading List
- Latin Reading List

PhD in Classics

The Classics PhD requires 60 graduate units of courses and research in combination. Up to 24 of these units 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 units must be at the 400 level or above, and the majority should be at the 500 level. With the guidance of the director of graduate studies, students may take up to 12 units outside of the Classics department to enhance their graduate study. Students may choose to pursue one of four special interdisciplinary tracks: Ancient Performance, Ancient Music, Ancient History, or Ancient Philosophy. Every PhD candidate also completes a teaching requirement through assignments as assistant in instruction and instructor of record.

Courses

54 units, including the following:

Specific required courses: 12 units
- Classics 503 Classical Studies: Theories, Methods & Practice (3 units), a proseminar on materials, methods, and professional issues in Classics (offered every two years)
- Classics 505 Seminar in Classics Pedagogy for Graduate Students (3 units) (offered every two or three years)
- Greek 445 Greek Prose Composition (offered every 2 years)
- Latin 444 Latin Prose Composition (offered every 2 years)

Other course requirements: 27 units
- At least 12 units in Greek (L09) (two options are offered every semester)
- At least 12 units in Latin (L10) (two or more options are offered every semester)
- At least 3 units in ancient history (at least one course will be offered every two years)

Elective courses: 15 units

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 units in the other language at the 400 level or above. The examination will require the student to demonstrate competence in translation and interpretation as well as in knowledge of the relevant scholarship.

Teaching Option

AM students may have the opportunity to assist faculty as paid student workers in undergraduate courses. They are also eligible to enroll in the department's graduate course in Classics pedagogy.
This requirement 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**

The master's thesis counts for 6 units.

**Program Exams**

- Greek Reading List
- Latin Reading List
- Comprehensive Exam
- Special Field Exam

**Teaching**

Eight semesters of mentored teaching experiences are required, including at least two courses as the instructor of record.

**Modern Language Competence**

This competence can be in German and French or in German and Italian; the requirement may be fulfilled by courses or examination in each case.

**Dissertation Requirements**

- Dissertation prospectus
- Dissertation prospectus colloquium
- Dissertation
- Dissertation defense