

Classics

Phone: 314-935-5123
Email: classics@wustl.edu
Website: <http://classics.wustl.edu>

Majors

The Major in Classics

Total units required: 24

Required courses:

A minimum of 24 credits, with at least 18 credits in advanced courses, are required. The specific program will be determined by the student and the adviser, in accordance with the student's interests. Courses may be chosen from among Greek, Latin and Classics offerings, but all majors must include in their programs a minimum of 12 advanced credits in Greek or Latin, at least 6 of which must be at the 400 level. Classics 225D may not be counted. Those who are able to enter the program at the advanced level because of previous language study will normally take 15 or more advanced credits in language. Competence in both Greek and Latin — although strongly encouraged and necessary for those planning to go on to graduate study in Classics — is not required. Majors, especially those planning graduate work, should enter the Honors Program if time permits.

Please consult the sections below regarding the required capstone experience (p. 1) and additional information (p. 1).

The Major in Ancient Studies

Total units required: 24

Required courses:

Students will take 24 units drawn from courses in the Department of Classics and related departments. Of these, 18 units must be at the advanced level, and at least 6 of these must be at the 400 level. Greek 102D and Latin 102D or a first-year seminar may be substituted for a 200-level course in translation. In this major, students are encouraged to take at least one course in ancient history and to develop a certain depth in one special field of interest (e.g., literature, art, history, philosophy). Therefore, at least 9 of the 18 advanced units of the major should be taken in one such specific area. Classics 225D may not be counted.

Please consult the sections below regarding the required capstone experience (p. 1) and additional information (p. 1).

Required Capstone Experience

All Classics and Ancient Studies majors are required to have a capstone experience of some kind in which they can pull together everything that they have learned in their Classics courses. Except in unusual cases (e.g., a junior year abroad experience), the capstone experience should occur during the students' senior year. Among the most common capstone experiences are the following:

- A senior honors thesis (two semesters of research and writing concluding in a long paper)
- A one-semester research project
- A Classics study abroad experience
- Special work within a 400-level seminar

Students should consult with their adviser to see what kind of capstone experience will work best for them.

Additional Information

Study Abroad: Study abroad for a semester in Rome or Athens is an option many Classics and Ancient Studies majors select. Washington University is a member of the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies (ICCS) consortium. Majors and minors regularly attend the one-semester ICCS "Centro" program in Rome. Others choose to attend a semester at the College Year in Athens (CYA) program. Students interested in these programs should consult Professor Cathy Keane (<https://classics.wustl.edu/people/cathy-keane/>). Some other study abroad programs will also allow students to earn major credit in Classics or Ancient Studies.

Senior Honors: Students who are planning to pursue graduate work should enter the honors program, and other students are encouraged to consider this program as well. To apply, a student must have junior standing, an average of A- or better in courses numbered 300 or higher in Greek and/or Latin (for Classics majors) or in Classics (for Ancient Studies majors), an overall grade-point average of 3.65 or higher, and permission of the chair. A formal application should be submitted in April of the junior year. A thesis of substantial nature and length is prepared and written under the direction of a member of the department, beginning during the fall semester of the senior year. A final draft is submitted to the director no later than February 1, and a final copy is submitted to the full thesis committee before the March break. Credit of 6 units is awarded upon presentation of an acceptable thesis. These credits will be in addition to the 24 credits of the major; those students who complete senior honors will therefore graduate with a total of 30 credits in the major.