

Classics

College of Arts & Sciences

The M.A. program in Classics in the Department of Modern and Classical Languages, Literatures, and Cultures offers a degree with courses in Greek and Latin languages, literatures and cultures, as well as allied offerings in ancient and medieval history, ancient and medieval philosophy, archaeology, Greek and Roman art, Early Christian studies, and Renaissance studies. The mission of the M.A. Program is to train classicists who would become Latin teachers, or who, having obtained a solid knowledge of the classical languages (active knowledge of Latin is offered through the program), would pursue a Ph.D. degree in Classics, History, Philosophy, Divinity, or other related fields.

Normally the M.A. program is completed in two years of full-time study. It is offered under both Plan A (thesis) and Plan B (non-thesis) options. An exit reading exam is required for both plans of study.

For additional information and details about the M.A. in Classics, including an opportunity for a concurrent degree with Teaching World Languages, contact the Director of Graduate Studies, and check the web site of the program: <http://mcl.as.uky.edu/ma-classics>.

Admission Requirements

The requirements for admission to the program in Classics are (a) an undergraduate grade point average of 3.0 or above on a 4.0 scale, (b) competence in one of the classical languages (Latin or Greek) and at least basic competence in the other, and (c) a combined score of 297 (new scoring) / 1000 (old scoring) on any two of the three parts of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). The Director of Graduate Studies may admit students with lower GRE scores or an undergraduate grade point average below 3.0 if, on the basis of a student's last two years of work, Classics grades, or general academic competence. An undergraduate major in Classics, Latin, or Greek is not required for admission, but the Program suggests that entering students should have completed at least six semesters of either Latin or Greek and four semesters of the other language. Students lacking sufficient preparation in one of the classical languages may be required to remedy such deficiencies by taking undergraduate courses.

The following documents should be submitted to the Apply Yourself online application system (https://app.applyyourself.com/AYApplicantLogin/fl_ApplicantConnectLogin.asp?id=ukgrad) by February 1, if the applicant is seeking financial aid, or before April 30 otherwise:

1. A one page statement describing the applicant's reasons for seeking a Master's degree. If an applicant wants to be considered for financial aid (i.e., a fellowship or an assistantship), this is to be indicated in the opening sentence of the personal statement.
2. A list of Latin and Greek works read with approximate number of lines.
3. Transcripts.
4. GRE scores.
5. Three letters of reference (normally from former teachers).

Course Descriptions

CLA 509 ROMAN LAW. (3)

An historical introduction to the development of Roman law, from the Twelve Tables through the Codex Justinianus. (Same as HIS 509.)

CLA 501 LATIN COMPOSITION. (3)

The course is designed for students with a good command of Latin morphology and basic knowledge of Latin syntax. The participants will deepen their knowledge of Latin syntax, internalize the principles of Latin grammar and usage, and develop a sensitivity to prose style. The course will involve readings from Latin authors from all periods, and exercises in Latin prose composition. It will foster familiarization with the language through exercises that will go beyond simple translation from English. English, not Latin, will be the spoken language used in this course. Prereq: Proficiency in Latin above the 300 level.

CLA 521 ADVANCED LATIN COMPOSITION AND READING. (3)

This course continues the study of Latin composition, concentrating on the compound sentence, modes of expression in subordinate clauses, and the figures of speech in rhetoric. Students will become acquainted with masterpieces of Latin prose from all periods, including Cicero, Sallust, Livy, Petronius, Pliny Minor, Einhard, Abelard, Erasmus of Rotterdam, Thomas More. This course, unlike CLA 501, will be conducted entirely in Latin, with the objective of further enhancing the students' abilities to express themselves in correct Latin prose. Prereq: Consent of instructor.

CLA 524 THE LATIN LITERATURE OF THE REPUBLIC (Subtitle required). (3)

A study of one or more works selected from the beginnings of Roman literary history to 31 B.C., the period of such writers as Cicero, Caesar, Sallust, Plautus, Terence, Lucretius, and Catallus. Texts may include prose, including history, philosophy, rhetoric and oratory, and letters, and/or poetry, including drama and satire. A particular author, work, genre, or theme is selected each time the course is offered. Textual analysis is emphasized, with lectures and class discussion on the literary milieu. May be repeated to a maximum of nine credits under a different subtitle. Prereq: CLA 301 or equivalent.

CLA 525 THE LATIN LITERATURE OF THE EMPIRE (Subtitle required). (3)

A study of one or more works selected from approximately 31 B.C. to the end of the Western Empire, the period of such writers as Livy, Tacitus, Pliny, Seneca, Virgil, Horace, Ovid, and Juvenal. Texts may include prose, including history, philosophy, rhetoric and oratory, and letters, and/or poetry, including epic, lyric, elegiac, pastoral, and satire. A particular author, work, genre, or theme is selected each time the course is offered. Textual analysis is emphasized, with lectures and class discussion on the literary milieu. May be repeated to a maximum of nine credits under a different subtitle. Prereq: CLA 301 or equivalent.

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CLA 528 LATE ANTIQUE AND POST-IMPERIAL LATIN LITERATURE (Subtitle required). (3)

A study of one or more works selected from Latin literature of late antiquity, or after the fall of the empire in the west, from approximately 200 AD into the Middle Ages and Renaissance. Authors and works may include early Christian Latin writers such as Augustine, late antique pagan writers such as the historian Ammianus, as well as medieval poetry, the Latin novel, medieval Christian writers, and Renaissance figures such as Erasmus. A particular author, work, genre, or theme is selected each time the course is offered. Textual analysis is emphasized, as well as the historical and cultural setting of the text and author. May be repeated to a maximum of nine credits under a different subtitle. Prereq: CLA 301 or equivalent.

CLA 611 LATIN OF ANCIENT ROME AND THE MIDDLE AGES (Subtitle required). (3)

This course is based on extensive reading of Latin texts taken from the Roman through the Medieval periods. It aims to foster close familiarization with the Latin language, cultivate an appreciation for different Latin prose styles, as well as investigate the broader historical and cultural circumstances surrounding each work. The classes will be conducted in Latin, and the assignments will involve Latin composition. May be repeated to a maximum of nine hours. Prereq: At least one course in Latin composition or permission of instructor.

CLA 612 LATIN OF THE MIDDLE AGES TO THE MODERN WORLD (Subtitle required). (3)

This course is based on extensive reading of Latin texts taken from the Medieval through the Modern period. It aims to foster close familiarization with the Latin language, cultivate an appreciation for different Latin prose styles, as well as investigate the broader historical and cultural circumstances surrounding each work. The classes will be conducted in Latin, and the assignments will involve Latin composition. May be repeated to a maximum of nine hours. Prereq: At least one course in Latin composition or permission of instructor.

CLA 624 SEMINAR IN THE LATIN LITERATURE OF THE REPUBLIC (Subtitle required). (3)

Graduate seminar in an author, a literary form, or a problem in the period of the Roman Republic. Intensive study of the Latin text(s) is accompanied by considerable attention to current scholarship and bibliography. Students will write extended papers and present oral reports in class. May be repeated to a maximum of nine hours. Prereq: Graduate standing or consent of the Classics DGS and instructor.

CLA 625 SEMINAR IN THE LATIN LITERATURE OF THE EMPIRE (Subtitle required). (3)

Graduate seminar in an author, a literary form, or a problem in the period of the Roman Empire. Intensive study of the Latin text(s) is accompanied by considerable attention to current scholarship and bibliography. Students will write extended papers and present oral reports in class. May be repeated to a maximum of nine hours. Prereq: Graduate standing or consent of the Classics DGS and instructor.

CLA 551 GREEK POETRY AND DRAMA (Subtitle required). (3)

A study of one or more works of Greek poetic and/or dramatic literature, which may include epic, lyric, tragedy, and comedy, selected from the whole of ancient Greek literature from Homer through the Roman period. A particular author, work, genre, or theme is selected each time the course is offered. Emphasis is placed both on mastering the Greek language and on literary analysis of the texts studied. Lectures and class discussions will further illuminate the literary and cultural milieu of the author or text. May be repeated to a maximum of nine credits under a different title. Prereq: CLA 252 or equivalent.

CLA 555 GREEK PROSE (Subtitle required). (3)

A study of one or more works of Greek prose literature, which may include history, biography, philosophy, satire, and the novel, selected from the whole of ancient Greek literature from Homer through the Roman period. A particular author, work, genre, or theme is selected each time the course is offered. Emphasis is placed both on mastering the Greek language and on literary analysis of the texts studied. Lectures and class discussions will further illuminate the literary and cultural milieu of the author or text. May be repeated to a maximum of nine credits under a different title. Prereq: CLA 252 or equivalent.

CLA 651 SEMINAR IN GREEK POETRY AND DRAMA (Subtitle required). (3)

Graduate seminar in Greek poetic and/or dramatic literature, which may include epic, lyric, tragedy, and comedy. Intensive study of the Greek text(s) is accompanied by considerable attention to current scholarship and bibliography. Students will write extended papers and present oral reports in class. May be repeated to a maximum of nine credits. Prereq: Graduate standing or consent of the Classics DGS and instructor.

CLA 655 SEMINAR IN GREEK PROSE (Subtitle required). (3)

Graduate seminar in Greek prose literature, which may include history, biography, satire, and the novel. Intensive study of the Greek text(s) is accompanied by considerable attention to current scholarship and bibliography. Students will write extended papers and present oral reports in class. May be repeated to a maximum of nine credits. Prereq: Graduate standing or consent of the Classics DGS and instructor.

CLA 395 UNDERGRADUATE INDEPENDENT STUDY IN CLASSICS. (1-3)

An independent investigation of a topic, usually outside of or in considerably greater depth than available in the regular course offerings,

in Greek and/or Roman language, literature, history, or culture. The course is designed for advanced

CLA 580 INDEPENDENT WORK IN CLASSICS. (3)

Courses to meet the needs of the student, including those who wish to study Medieval and/or Renaissance Latin, will be arranged in various areas. May be repeated to a maximum of 12 credits. Prereq: Major standing of 3.0 in the department or consent of instructor.

CLA 615 MANUSCRIPT CULTURES. (3)

This course examines how the vehicle of the manuscript and the circumstances of manuscript production shaped the creation, transmission, and reading of texts before the fifteenth century. Among the topics to be studied are orality and literacy, the transcription of sacred texts in Christianity, Judaism, and Islam, the political, economic, and social impacts of manuscript production and circulation, the impact of institutions (such as universities) on reading practices, contexts for the suppression, control, and alteration of texts, and the radical differences between print and manuscript cultures. (Same as HIS 615.)

CLA 616 PALEOGRAPHY. (3)

This course provides training in the skills needed to read the handwritten materials that constitute evidence for historical investigation of the production and circulation of information outside the medium of print. While the specific scripts to be studied will vary from semester to semester, depending upon whether the course is focused upon Latin paleography, Greek paleography, or vernacular paleographies, students will learn to read and transcribe manuscripts, to expand abbreviations appropriately, to recognize the chronological and geographical extent of particular scripts, to develop strategies for reading difficult scripts, to find the specialized reference works to assist them in studying handwritten materials, and to understand the historical arguments that have been constructed on the basis of analysis of scripts and the “archaeology of the book.” The course also provides training in basic codicology and editorial techniques for establishing a text and recording variant readings. Prereq: Some familiarity with the language of the materials. (Same as HIS 616.)

CLA 630 SEMINAR IN CLASSICAL LITERATURE AND CULTURE (Subtitle required). (3)

This graduate seminar offers advanced, intensive study in two particular approaches to the study of Classics, requiring a broader and more inclusive approach beyond the scope of the typical Greek or Latin seminar. These are: 1) the coordinated study of works of both Greek and Latin literature, and 2) the study of a specific research area in classical studies and culture. One of these areas will be the focus of the course each time it is offered. Topics in the coordinated study of Greek and Latin literature can take various forms, such as the passions in Greek and Latin poetry, comparative Greek and Latin drama, Homer and Virgil, etc. Research in classics and culture involves extensive reading of a large body of sources and scholarship on a specific topic of current scholarly interest, along with the use of texts in the original language(s) for course assignments and papers. Appropriate competence in reading Latin and/or Greek texts is expected of all students in the course. Topics may include a focused aspect of Greek and/or Roman society, material culture, early Christianity – and its relation to classical culture, aspects of Medieval or Renaissance culture, or the ongoing influence of classical stories, ideals, and cultural forms in modern media. May be repeated for up to six credits on different topics. Prereq: Graduate standing or consent of the Classics DGS and instructor.

CLA 695 INDEPENDENT STUDY. (1-3)

Independent investigation of a problem under supervision of a graduate faculty member; or directed readings, writing, and discussion in small groups on topics outside the usual seminar offerings, guided by

a graduate faculty member. May be repeated to a maximum of nine credits. Prereq: Admission to graduate program, permission of instructor and of departmental Director of Graduate Studies.

CLA 748 MASTER'S THESIS RESEARCH. (0)

Half-time to full-time work on thesis. May be repeated to a maximum of six semesters. Prereq: All course work toward the degree must be completed.

CLA 768 RESIDENCE CREDIT FOR MASTER'S DEGREE. (1-6)

May be repeated to a maximum of 12 hours.

CLA 790 RESEARCH IN THE TEACHING OF CLASSICAL LANGUAGES. (3)

Problems in the teaching of Latin and/or Greek in secondary and/or higher education. Objectives, methods, preparation of materials, development of curricula, or the history of the field. Prereq: CLA 530 or the equivalent.

