

CLASSICAL STUDIES

THE SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES

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DEGREE OFFERED: BA

The classical department offers instruction in the Greek and Latin languages, in Greek and Roman literature (studied in the original and in translation), in the classical civilizations surveyed as a whole, and in particular themes, genres, and periods of classical culture and its influence through subsequent ages.

We recognize that students come to the study of ancient Greece and Rome with a whole spectrum of different kinds of interest. Some will want to concentrate on learning the ancient languages and reading the classical texts in the original Greek or Latin. Others will desire a broader introduction to the cultures of Greece and Rome and their legacy. With this in mind, the classics department provides maximum flexibility without sacrifice of focus. We cater to students who wish to prepare for graduate school in classics and also to students who are interested in Greek and Roman culture for other reasons and wish to take a less specialized approach. Students will be able to explore ancient Greece and Rome from a variety of different angles and with whatever emphasis best suits their individual needs and goals.

The classics department offers 2 tracks to satisfy the requirements for a BA (specific information below): the classics track emphasizes the ancient languages and reading classical texts in the original; the classical civilizations track allows for a broader set of approaches and does not include a language requirement.

Classical studies majors, in either track, will, if they wish, have the opportunity to engage in research. In the final semester of study, a student may enroll in CLAS 493, in which the student writes a senior thesis on a topic of the student's choice in consultation with a faculty member.

The classics department also offers a program in the Classical Legacy. Using courses in translation, this program makes classical antiquity accessible to a wide range of students and offers those students basic knowledge of major trends in Western intellectual and cultural history. Courses offer grounding in classical literature, art, thought, and history and relate classical culture to later attempts in post classical and contemporary cultures to assimilate, emulate, and recreate classical models. A highlight of the Classical Legacy program is CLAS 321, a 2-week study-trip to Rome at the end of the spring semester, organized and run by Rice professors for Rice students. For current information on the Classical Legacy program and the study-trip to Rome, consult the website: classicallegacy.rice.edu/.

Further information on the department, its courses, its faculty members, and its events is available on the web: classics.rice.edu/.

Policy on Advanced Placement credit: For the exam on “Latin Literature,” new matriculants who score 4 receive 3 hours credit for LATI 104 and new matriculants who score 5 receive 3 hours credit for LATI 204 and D1 distribution credit. For the exam on “Latin: Virgil,” new matriculants who score 4 receive 3 hours credit for LATI 104 and new matriculants who score 5 receive 3 hours credit for LATI 202 and D1 distribution credit.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS FOR BA IN CLASSICAL STUDIES

For general university requirements, see Graduation Requirements (pages 16–19).

Students majoring in classical studies may complete either of 2 tracks.

For the classics track, students must complete 30 semester hours (10 courses) listed under Greek, Latin, or Classics, including at least 2 of the following 3 courses:

- CLAS 107 *Greek Civilization and Its Legacy*
- CLAS 108 *Roman Civilization and Its Legacy*
- CLAS 235 *Classical Mythology: Interpretation, Origins, and Influence*

and at least 9 hours (3 courses) in either Greek or Latin at the 300 level or higher.

For the classical civilizations track, students must complete 30 semester hours (10 courses) listed under Greek, Latin, or Classics, including at least 2 of the following 3 courses:

- CLAS 107 *Greek Civilization and Its Legacy*
- CLAS 108 *Roman Civilization and Its Legacy*
- CLAS 235 *Classical Mythology: Interpretation, Origins, and Influence*

Some courses in ancient philosophy, history, art history, and religion offered by the departments of Philosophy, History, Art History, and Religious Studies also satisfy requirements for either track of the classical studies major. For advice on which courses do this, consult the undergraduate advisor.

See CLAS, GREE, and LATI in the Courses of Instruction section.