

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ
CLASSICAL STUDIES
BACHELOR OF ARTS MAJOR 2009-2010

Attn: First Year and Transfer Students

Coordinated through the Department of History

Office Hours: Monday through Friday 8AM to NOON & 1PM to 5 PM

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PROGRAM

“Classics” is a traditional designation for the study of the literature, history, and culture of ancient Greece and Rome. Classical Studies at UCSC combines features of traditional programs, such as solid groundings in ancient languages, with innovative, interdisciplinary approaches (literary theory, gender studies, performance, and film).

Classical Studies is an interdisciplinary field. While the core of the major is focused on courses in the ancient Greek and Latin languages, the major also includes courses in history of art and visual culture, history, linguistics, literature, philosophy, politics, religious studies, and theater arts. Students are encouraged to study the literary and material artifacts of Greece and Rome within the larger context of ancient Mediterranean and Near Eastern cultures.

By its nature, a Classical Studies major encourages students to acquire a broad and diverse intellectual background that will stand them in good stead throughout life. Classical Studies is an excellent preparation for further study in a wide variety of graduate and professional programs. Recent studies have shown, for example, that majors in classics and mathematics do better than all other majors in law school.

A variety of different interests lead students to major in Classical Studies. For some students it is the desire to encounter the roots of modern western intellectual traditions through ancient texts, not in translation, but in their original Greek and Latin; for others, a desire to acquire background that will enrich their principal interests and prepare for graduate study in fields such as English literature, art history, philosophy, linguistics, or political thought; still others aim to achieve a better control of English vocabulary, grammar, and style.

The Classical Studies major offers an opportunity to work in small classes with a dedicated teaching faculty and excellent fellow students. Over the years, Classical Studies has averaged about six to ten majors per year. Our five core faculty have a substantial record of commitment and success as teachers, and have won several teaching awards.

REQUIREMENTS

The basic requirements for the Classical Studies major allow a variety of emphases and concentrations. For example, students with an interest in contemporary philosophy and political theory might want to concentrate in Greek, taking upper-division courses in Greek, history, philosophy, and politics. Students with an interest in European literatures might want to concentrate in Latin, taking upper-division courses in Latin, history, and literature in translation. Students planning on pursuing a classics degree at the Ph.D. level should concentrate most of their coursework in the Greek and Latin languages themselves.

(OVER)

REQUIREMENTS

A prerequisite for the Classical Studies **major** is the lower division sequence in elementary Greek or Latin language (Greek 1 and 2 or Latin 1 and 2). The **major** requires a total of 10 courses plus a senior comprehensive exam and must include the following:

- One lower-division survey of ancient history or literature in translation
- Three upper-division courses in Greek or Latin
- Six additional approved upper-division courses (which may include courses in Greek or Latin language).
- Enrollment in a 2-credit comprehensive examination preparatory course, History 199F, is required in the same quarter that the senior oral examination will be given.

A **minor** in Classical Studies requires the lower division sequence in elementary Greek or Latin language (Greek 1 and 2 or Latin 1 and 2) and Greek or Latin 100 plus any four of the upper-division courses listed as satisfying the classical studies major requirements.

PREPARATION

High school students planning to major in Classical Studies at UCSC do not need any specific preparation other than the high school courses required for UC admission. Previous study of Latin or Greek is valuable but not required. Students whose high schools do not offer Latin or Greek will be able to learn those languages at UCSC, where the Classics program is of high quality. Transfer students are advised to complete their campus's general education requirements before coming to UCSC. Some background in literary analysis and interpretation is desirable, but not essential. Since this is an interdisciplinary major, preparatory work in art history, history, linguistics, literature, philosophy, or politics, depending on the student's interests, may also be useful. All transfer students participating in summer orientation are encouraged to bring a copy of their unofficial transcript with them. Students **do not** need to submit transcripts to the department for review prior to summer orientation.

PROGRAM FACULTY

Karen Bassi, Professor of Classics and Literature

Greek and Latin literature, Greek drama, Hellenistic poetics, feminist interpretations, literary and cultural theory, pre- and early modern studies, historiography

Mary-Kay Gamel, Professor of Classics and Comparative Literature

Ancient drama in performance, performance studies; Greek and Latin literature; Ovid and his influence; feminist approaches to literature and performance.

Charles W. Hedrick Jr., Professor of History

Greek social, cultural, and intellectual history; Greek religion; Greek historiography; Greek archeology.

John Lynch, Emeritus

Gildas Hamel, Lecturer

History of Judaism and Christianity, Hebrew and Greek Bible, classical languages.

Dan Selden, Associate Professor of Literature

Greek and Latin literatures; Hellenistic culture; the classical tradition; history of criticism, literary theory

QUESTIONS?

For more information on the Classical Studies program, visit the History Department website at <http://history.ucsc.edu>. If you have any questions, please contact the History Department Office at (831) 459-2982 or e-mail historyundergrad@ucsc.edu.