Classical Studies

FROM STUDY TO SKILLS

All academic programs offered at the UM help students develop valuable transferable skills. So why study ancient cultures and languages? Because the works and thoughts of the Greeks and Romans provide historical perspective to questions that are still sharply debated. The questions pondered by the ancients are timeless — the nature of fate, identity and gender, the individual and society, responsibility of the individual, the best form of government, definitions of justice and law, the meaning of heroism, the function of sport and spectacle in society, the origins of imperialism, etc. In addition, the ancient languages influenced every modern European language, especially Modern Greek, Italian, French, Spanish, and Portuguese.

We encourage students to use the Department’s many resources and provide many opportunities to pursue research, fieldwork, and study abroad.

Related fields include History, Philosophy, History of Art, Comparative Literature, Linguistics, Archaeology, Near Eastern Studies, Ancient Civilizations, and Biblical Studies.

SKILLS AND ABILITIES

Language Skills
- Reading for tone and attitude
- Perceiving word patterns and structures
- Interpreting historical ideas in a modern context
- Evaluating styles of writing
- Using and recognizing precise language
- Evaluating translations and original texts

Research and Analytical Skills
- Understanding the importance of detail
- Compiling and organizing information
- Evaluating ideas/theories/evidence
- Observing people and things
- Reasoning logical solutions to problems

Communication Skills
- Writing clearly
- Listening critically
- Presenting and debating arguments
- Persuading people/groups
- Editing/proofreading materials
- Reading for hidden meaning

Social and Intercultural Skills
- Understanding ideas
- Understanding and interpreting other cultures/beliefs
- Developing sensitivity to cultural viewpoints
- Clarifying others’ thoughts and ideas
- Appreciating continuity and change within a historical perspective

BUILDING YOUR SKILLS OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Employers seek out individuals who can demonstrate excellent verbal and written communication skills, teamwork and interpersonal skills, initiative, and a strong work ethic. Classical Studies offers students numerous opportunities to engage in departmental life to help build these skills. The small size of many language classes and upper level courses fosters a true sense of community, enhanced by faculty and staff mentorship and lively activity of several student groups. Student organizations and campus employment offer other valuable opportunities to add to the skills you are developing in your classes. Other options include study abroad, off-campus employment or volunteering in the community. Finally, a summer internship may be the best way of all to test out a career field and develop marketable skills.
FROM SKILLS TO CAREER

Classics concentrators develop both general and technical skills applicable to a wide range of careers. For example, the ability to organize and compile large amounts of data may be equally useful whether working as a museum curator, a freelance writer, or an attorney.

**Language Skills**
- Teacher, Greek and Latin
- Interpreter
- Translator
- Tour planner/tour guide
- International trade representative

**Research and Analytical Skills**
- Archivist
- College professor
- Archaeologist
- Research associate
- Museum curator
- Medical researcher
- Financial analyst
- Policy analyst
- Foundation director
- Librarian

**Communication Skills**
- High school teacher
- Study abroad advisor
- Lawyer
- Editor (textbook, journal, newspaper, web)
- Advertising copywriter
- Promotional advertiser
- Public relations specialist
- Freelance writer
- Arts reviewer

**Social and Intercultural Skills**
- Minister
- Foreign service officer
- Press secretary
- Legislative assistant
- Labor relations manager
- Human resource officer

For more career information, see O*Net at [http://online.onetcenter.org/](http://online.onetcenter.org/)

**CONCENTRATION REQUIREMENTS**

The Department offers the following concentration and minor programs:

- Archaeology
- Ancient Greek and Latin
- † Classical Language and Literature
- † Greek
- † Latin
- † Latin Teaching Certification
- Classical Civilization
- Modern Greek

Descriptions of the various concentration requirements are set forth in the LSA Bulletin and can be found on the departmental website. The Classical Studies concentration advisors welcome the opportunity to discuss the department’s program with any prospective concentrators. In addition, an Honors concentration is available in each concentration. Classics concentrators are eligible to spend a semester abroad at the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome, where students gain firsthand exposure to the major sites and monuments of ancient Greece, Sicily, and Roman Italy.

**Department of Classics**
2160 Angell Hall
435 S. State Street
734-764-0360
[www.lsa.umich.edu/classics](http://www.lsa.umich.edu/classics)

**Newman Advising Center**
1255 Angell Hall
734-764-0332
[www.lsa.umich.edu/advising](http://www.lsa.umich.edu/advising)

**NEXT STEPS/RESOURCES**

To begin exploring opportunities for overseas study and work, go to: [http://lsa.umich.edu/cgis/](http://lsa.umich.edu/cgis/) or [http://globalportal.umich.edu/study.php](http://globalportal.umich.edu/study.php)

To begin connecting to professionals in fields that interest you, create your own LinkedIn account: [www.careercenter.umich.edu/students/networking/linkedin_intro.html](http://www.careercenter.umich.edu/students/networking/linkedin_intro.html)

To identify internships or job opportunities, visit Career Center Connector: [www.careercenter.umich.edu/c3student/](http://www.careercenter.umich.edu/c3student/)

On-campus jobs (work-study and non work-study jobs) are listed at: [https://studentemployment.umich.edu/JobX_Home.aspx](https://studentemployment.umich.edu/JobX_Home.aspx)

Maize Pages list hundreds of organizations for students to get involved in: [http://studentorgs.umich.edu/maize](http://studentorgs.umich.edu/maize)

Volunteer Connection lists volunteer opportunities in local organizations: [http://volunteer-connection.umich.edu/](http://volunteer-connection.umich.edu/)

**The Career Center**
3200 Student Activities Building
734-764-7460
[www.careercenter.umich.edu](http://www.careercenter.umich.edu)
[www.facebook.com/careercenter.umich](http://www.facebook.com/careercenter.umich)
[http://twitter.com/careercenter](http://twitter.com/careercenter)