



DEPARTMENT OF THE CLASSICS

Overview of Concentrations, Joint Concentrations,
Secondary Field, and Language Citations



HARVARD
UNIVERSITY



WHO WE ARE

In the field of classics, we study the art, literature, philosophy, and history of the ancient Greek and Roman worlds, as well as their subsequent receptions and appropriations. We encourage students to explore the whole range of Greco-Roman civilization and its afterlives, from the Bronze Age through Byzantium and medieval Europe to modern Greece.



OUR STUDENTS

We welcome students who have no prior knowledge of either Greek or Latin. In accordance with our conviction that classics intersects in fundamental ways with many academic fields, we also welcome joint concentrations.



Classics concentrators gain familiarity with Latin or Greek (or both) and with the history, art, and culture of ancient Greece and Rome. They develop a deep and critical understanding of key aspects of these civilizations' cultural legacies and the ways in which they have shaped the modern world. In doing so, they learn how to handle complex evidence across different media and how to form persuasive and sophisticated arguments, both in writing and in oral presentations.

Our students have gone on to successful careers in law, tech, medicine, business, journalism, divinity, the arts, and more.

Images above:
Classics concentrators visit northern Greece during spring break; trip is part of the capstone course Classical Studies 112 (Regional Study). Photos by Tejas Vadali (top, middle) and Greta Galeotti (bottom).

Front cover image:
Head of a Woman, 2nd century CE.
Harvard Art Museums/Arthur M. Sackler Museum, Gift of Landon T. Clay. Image © President and Fellows of Harvard College

CONCENTRATIONS IN THE CLASSICS

We offer two tracks for Classics as a Concentration: Classical Civilizations and Classical Languages and Literatures.

CLASSICAL CIVILIZATIONS

Basic requirements: 12 courses

Four courses in Greek and/or Latin

Two courses providing a broad introduction to Classical civilization, normally Classical Studies 97a and 97b.

Classics 98, a small-group tutorial emphasizing the development of research skills (must be taken for a letter-grade).

Classical Studies 112 (Regional Study)

Four additional courses from among those listed under Classics at courses.my.harvard.edu, including cross-listed courses.

Additional requirements for Honors:

Senior thesis, together with two semesters of the senior tutorial (Classics 99).

CLASSICAL LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

Basic requirements: 12 courses

Six courses in Greek and/or Latin.

At least two of these must be numbered 100 or above and at least one of which must be selected from the following list: GREEK 112A, GREEK 112B, GREEK 175, LATIN 112A, LATIN 112B, LATIN 175 (or equivalent in the case of Byzantine/Modern Greek and Medieval Latin).

Two courses providing a broad introduction to Classical civilization, normally Classical Studies 97a and 97b.

Classics 98, a small-group tutorial emphasizing the development of research skills (must be taken for a letter-grade).

Three additional courses from among those listed under Classics at courses.my.harvard.edu, including cross-listed courses.

Additional requirements for Honors:

Senior thesis, together with two semesters of the senior tutorial (Classics 99)

SUMMER TRAVEL AND STUDY ABROAD

These are just some examples of the opportunities available. Contact the Director of Undergraduate Studies for more information.

ARCHAEOLOGY

Harvard-Cornell Archaeological Exploration of Sardis (Turkey)

<http://www.harvardartmuseums.org/teaching-and-research/research-centers/archaeological-exploration-of-sardis>

The Gabii Project (Italy)

<https://sites.lsa.umich.edu/gabiiproject/>

The Umbra Institute (Italy)

<http://www.umbra.org/academics/archaeology-summer/>

Mt. Lykaion Excavation and Survey Project (Greece)

<http://lykaionexcavation.org>

SUMMER INTERNSHIPS

The Center for Hellenic Studies Museum of Cycladic Art Summer Internship Program in Greece

<https://greece.chs.harvard.edu/internships/museum-cycladic>

The Center for Hellenic Studies Teaching Internship Program in Greece

<https://greece.chs.harvard.edu/internships/teaching>

STUDY ABROAD

The Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome

<https://globaled.duke.edu/programs/rome ICCS>

College Year in Athens

<https://www.cyathens.org/>

TRAVEL/STUDY PROGRAMS

Harvard Summer Program in Greece

<http://www.summer.harvard.edu/study-abroad/greece>

Harvard Alumni Association - Center for Hellenic Studies Harvard Spring Break Trip

<https://greece.chs.harvard.edu/travel-study/spring-break>

American School of Classical Studies in Athens Summer Session

<https://www.ascsa.edu.gr/programs/summer-session-and-seminars>

American Academy in Rome Classical Summer School

<https://www.aarome.org/apply/academic-programs>

JOINT CONCENTRATION IN ANCIENT HISTORY (GREEK AND ROMAN)

Basic requirements: 14 courses

One course in modern history

Four courses in Greek and/or Latin.

Two additional courses within Ancient History.

Classical Studies 97a or 97b

Classics 98 (must be taken for a letter-grade)

One of the four history courses above should be a seminar that results in a research paper of at least 20 pages that is completed by the end of the junior year.

Classical Studies 112 (Regional Study)

History 97 (Sophomore Tutorial)

Senior thesis, together with two semesters of the senior tutorial (Classics 99 or History 99)

One course in non-Western history



Spring break trip to Sicily with Classical Studies 112 (Regional Study)

Photo by Fariba Mahmud ('22)

JOINT CONCENTRATIONS IN THE CLASSICS AND AN ALLIED FIELD

CLASSICAL LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES AND ALLIED FIELD

Basic requirements: 7 courses

Four courses in Greek and/or Latin.

At least two of these must be numbered 100 or above and at least one of which must be selected from the following list: GREEK 112A, GREEK 112B, GREEK 175, LATIN 112A, LATIN 112B, LATIN 175 (or equivalent in the case of Byzantine/Modern Greek and Medieval Latin).

Classical Studies 97a or 97b

Classics 98 (must be taken for a letter-grade)

One additional course from among those listed under Classics at courses.my.harvard.edu, including cross-listed courses.

Additional requirements for Honors:

Senior thesis, together with two semesters of the senior tutorial (Classics 99, if Classics is the primary field).

CLASSICAL CIVILIZATIONS AND ALLIED FIELD

Basic requirements: 7 courses

Two courses in Greek and/or Latin.

Classical Studies 97a or 97b

Classics 98 (must be taken for a letter-grade)

Classical Studies 112 (Regional Study)

Two additional courses from among those listed under Classics at courses.my.harvard.edu, including cross-listed courses.

Additional requirements for Honors:

Senior thesis, together with two semesters of the senior tutorial (Classics 99, if Classics is the primary field).

SECONDARY FIELD IN CLASSICAL CIVILIZATIONS

To qualify for a Secondary Field in Classical Civilizations, students need to take five courses relating to the Greek and Roman worlds. Courses conducted entirely in English, as well as courses in the languages taught in the Department of the Classics, may count toward the Secondary Field.

Requirements:

Classical Studies 97a or 97b

Four additional courses from among those listed under Classics at my.harvard.edu, including cross-listed courses.

No more than two courses or one full course from the introductory language sequence in Modern Greek may count toward the Secondary Field.

One course may be taken Pass/Fail.

Students interested in pursuing a Secondary Field in Classical Civilizations should contact the Director of Undergraduate Studies.

Rear cover image:
Temple of Segesta
Photo by Fariba Mahmud ('22)

LANGUAGE CITATIONS

A Language Citation may be earned by taking four courses in a single language above the first-year level. Students interested in pursuing a Citation should contact the Preceptor.

CITATION IN LATIN

Requirements: Four courses chosen from the following: Latin 3, 10, or any 100-level Latin course, including those in Medieval Latin. At least two of the courses must be 100-level.

CITATION IN GREEK

Requirements: Four courses chosen from the following: Greek 3, 10, or any 100-level Greek course, including those in Byzantine Greek. At least two of the courses must be 100-level.

CITATION IN MODERN GREEK

Requirements: Four courses (or equivalent) chosen from the following: Modern Greek B (a full course), or any 100-level course in which the reading is done in modern Greek.

Other advanced courses or those taken out of residence for Harvard degree credit may be substituted for one or more of the required courses for each Language Citation with the permission of the Preceptor.



CONTACT US

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