

Faculty

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The study of the classics concerns itself with the one fixed point of reference in the liberal arts: the origins. The very notion of liberal arts is a creation of ancient Greece and Rome. Courses in the classics are intended to acquaint the student with the languages, literatures, and civilizations of those cultural well-springs. Because classics comprehends all aspects of the ancient civilization of the West, it is in fact an interdisciplinary field.

Greek and Latin are the fundamental languages of the West, with literatures extending over three millennia. Serious study of Greece and Rome (as of most cultures) must include the study of their languages. Learning Latin or Greek is one of the

best ways to learn English grammar. In addition, Greek and Latin are valuable for the study of linguistics and of other foreign languages, particularly the Romance languages, German, and Sanskrit. Like the courses in classical civilization, the study of Greek and Latin enhances understanding of such diverse subjects as art history, drama, history, philosophy, political science, religion, and the modern literatures of Europe and America. Indeed, almost any study of the Western intellect and imagination looks repeatedly toward Greece and Rome and does so to greatest advantage through the lucid windows of the original languages.

Besides Latin and Greek, Sanskrit may usually be studied.

The department encourages its students to study abroad, especially in Greece and Italy, but in many other countries as well, either during the summer or for a semester or year.

New Students

First-year students or students new to classics take Greek or Latin at an appropriate level, or any of the courses in classical civilization, except CLAS 471. New students are particularly encouraged to take the classical civilization courses numbered 100-299 and any courses marked by the ♦ symbol. Courses in classical civilization do not require a knowledge of Greek or Latin. Under this heading, students' particular interests may lead them to those courses that have to do with ancient history, literature, or religion. Two solid years of study in high school

should qualify a student for an intermediate language course, but secondary school preparation varies widely. We offer placement tests in both Latin and Greek.

In 2006-07, one section of Elementary Latin has three one-hour meetings per week. The other, intensive section of Elementary Latin meets five times a week, for 1.5 units of credit, as does Elementary Greek. No specific linguistic preparation is required or assumed for these courses, but regular attendance and thorough preparation are crucial.

Courses at the 100 or 200 level combine lectures and discussions, and the work involves papers and quizzes or tests. These include Greek History, Classical Mythology, Rhetoric in Antiquity, and The Roman World. Students considering a major or minor in classics should this year take either CLAS 270 (Greek History) or CLAS 102 (The Roman World) or both.

Kenyon's Language Requirement

A year of study at Kenyon in either Latin or Greek satisfies Kenyon's language requirement. To satisfy the language requirement through previous study in Latin, a student needs a score of 4 or 5 on any Latin Advanced Placement exam, or a passing grade on the department's placement test given during the orientation program. The examination tests the student on the equivalent of a year of Latin at Kenyon. To satisfy the language requirement through previous study in Ancient Greek, a student needs to achieve a passing grade in an examination set by the department during orientation, but only by arrangement between the student and the department. The examination tests the student on the equivalent of a year of Greek at Kenyon.

Requirements for the Major

Students majoring in classics may choose any one of the four forms of the major: (1) Latin and Greek, (2) Latin, (3) Greek, (4) Classical Civilization. A Senior Exercise and the Senior Seminar, CLAS 471, are required of all majors.

Students who intend to continue the study of the classics in graduate school are advised to choose the Latin and Greek form of the major and to develop a reading ability in both French and German. Students who are interested in studying classical literature at the graduate level will benefit greatly from enrolling in ENGL 212: Introduction to Literary Theory.

Students who study abroad (in Greece, Italy, or elsewhere) receive full credit for the work completed successfully there, but in advance each student should ascertain from the department how work done abroad will be credited to the departmental requirements for the major. Time spent away from Kenyon, as well as other circumstances, may render it impossible for a student to proceed with his or her language study according to the established sequence: LATN 101-102 or LATN 111-112, LATN 201, LATN 202, LATN 301, LATN 302; or GREK 111-112, GREK 201, GREK 202, GREK 301, GREK 302. To take courses out of sequence, a student must solicit in advance the department's approval for the necessary deviation by means of a brief e-mail message addressed to all faculty members currently on campus. Students wishing to substitute a different course for any of the courses required for their type of the major or minor should follow the same procedure.

We encourage all majors and minors to take these four courses: CLAS 101: The Greek World, CLAS 102: The Roman World, CLAS 270: Greek History, and CLAS 271: Roman History. We expect to offer each of these courses every other year.

Latin and Greek

(6 units minimum)

- 5 units of Latin and Ancient Greek, with at least 1 unit in each
- CLAS 101: The Greek World or CLAS 102: The Roman World or CLAS 270: Greek History or CLAS 271: Roman History
- CLAS 471: Senior Seminar

Greek

(5 units minimum)

- 3 units of Ancient Greek
- CLAS 101: The Greek World or CLAS 102: The Roman World
- CLAS 270: Greek History or CLAS 271: Roman History
- CLAS 471: Senior Seminar
- .5 unit of CLAS or GREK or LATN or Sanskrit or any approved cognate course taught in another department

The Greek major must include at least one CLAS course concentrating on Greece, usually CLAS 101 or CLAS 270.

Latin

(5 units minimum)

- 3 units of Latin
- CLAS 101: The Greek World or CLAS 102: The Roman World
- CLAS 270: Greek History or CLAS 271: Roman History
- CLAS 471: Senior Seminar
- .5 unit of CLAS or GREK or LATN or Sanskrit or any approved cognate course taught in another department

The Latin major must include at least one course in CLAS concentrating on Latin literature or Roman history, usually CLAS 102 or CLAS 271.

Classical Civilization

(5 units minimum)

- 2 units of either Ancient Greek or Latin
- Three courses (1.5 units) chosen from among CLAS 101: The

Greek World, CLAS 102: The Roman World, CLAS 270: Greek History, and CLAS 271: Roman History (with permission of the department, a student may substitute another course in the department for one of these courses)

- CLAS 471: Senior Seminar
- Two courses (1 unit) from CLAS or LATN or GREK or Sanskrit or any approved cognate courses taught in other departments

Senior Exercise

The Senior Exercise is written during the fall semester and consists of a set of examinations designed to establish that a student is able to read straightforward prose and verse in the ancient languages in which he or she has done (or is doing) intermediate-level coursework required by the major.

Honors

Honors in classics involves a substantial senior thesis in the area of Greek, Latin, or ancient history. The thesis is written in the senior year under the direction of an advisor, as an independent study. All honors students must take the Senior Seminar, whether or not they include it in their honors work, unless they are double majors.

Requirements for the Minor

Students minoring in classics may choose any of the three forms of the minor: (1) minor with language emphasis, (2) minor with civilization emphasis, (3) minor with language and civilization emphasis. While the Senior Seminar, CLAS 471, is required of all minors, minors do NOT have to take the translation exams that constitute the Senior Exercise.

Classics Minor with Language Emphasis

(3 units minimum)

- 2.5 units of Ancient Greek, or 2 units of Latin, or 2 units of Latin and Greek courses (including, in all three cases, 1 unit of courses at the intermediate and/or advanced level)
- CLAS 471: Senior Seminar
- If necessary to complete 3 units, another course in CLAS or LATN or GREK or Sanskrit

Classics Minor with Civilization Emphasis

(3 units minimum)

- Three courses (1.5 units) chosen from among CLAS 101: The Greek World, CLAS 102: The Roman World, CLAS 270: Greek History, and CLAS 271: Roman History (with the permission of the department, a student may substitute another course in the department for one of these courses)
- Two courses (1 unit) from CLAS or LATN or GREK or Sanskrit or any approved cognate courses taught in other departments
- CLAS 471: Senior Seminar

Classics Minor with Language and Civilization Emphasis

(3 units minimum)

- 1 unit of Ancient Greek and/or Latin
- CLAS 471: Senior Seminar
- Either CLAS 101: The Greek World or CLAS 102: The Roman World
- Either CLAS 270: Greek History or CLAS 271: Roman History
- .5 unit from CLAS, LATN, GREK, Sanskrit, or any approved cognate course taught in another department

Cognate Courses

Several of the forms of the classics major and minor allow .5 unit or 1 unit of cognate courses taught in other departments to be used to meet requirements. These courses include, but are not limited to, the following:

ARHS 110: Survey of Art of the Ancient World
 ARHS 220: Greek Art
 ARHS 221: Roman Art
 DRAM 351: Classical Theater
 HIST 437: Late Antiquity
 IPHS 113-114 Odyssey of the West (.5 unit)
 PHIL 200: Ancient Philosophy
 PSCI 220: The Classical Quest for Justice
 PHIL 350: Plato
 PSCI 421: Socrates
 PSCI 422: Thucydides
 RELN 225: The New Testament

To determine whether a particular course taught outside the department may be counted as a cognate course for a major or minor, the student should send a brief e-mail inquiry to all faculty members currently on campus.

CLASSICAL CIVILIZATION

The following courses in classical civilization do not require a knowledge of Greek or Latin.

Year Courses**Senior Honors**

CLAS 497Y-498Y (1 unit)
Staff

This course offers independent study for senior candidates for honors. Prerequisite: permission of instructor.

First-Semester Courses**Classical Mythology**

◆ CLAS 114 (.5 unit)
Hahnemann

It is impossible to understand the literatures of the West without some knowledge of classical mythology. Not only are some myths wildly entertaining, they permeate popular imagination and life to this day. This course focuses on the epics of ancient Greece and Rome but also includes material from other traditions, such as the Indic Ramayana and the Norse Edda. Our especial goal will be to study the different roles assigned to females—princess, wife, mother, witch, goddess, amazon, to name just a few. No prerequisites.

Greek History

CLAS 270 (.5 unit)
Serfass

This course surveys the history of ancient Greece from its occluded origins in the pre-Homeric past to the widespread diffusion of Hellenic culture that accompanied the conquests of Alexander the Great. At the heart of the course will be a careful study of the emergence and development of the Greek city-state in its various incarnations. The course will provide a solid grounding in political history but will also explore aspects of the cultural milieu—for example, religion, sexual mores, and the economy—that fostered some of the greatest literary and artistic works produced by Western civilization. We will read from the celebrated Greek historians Herodotus and Thucydides, as well as from a variety of other sources, ranging from the familiar (e.g., Homer) to the recondite (e.g., Alcman). The course will combine lecture and discussion. No prerequisites.

Individual Study

CLAS 393 (.5 unit)
Staff

This course may be taken either to supplement the work of another course in the department or to pur-

sue a special course of reading not otherwise provided. Prerequisites: permission of instructor and department chair.

Senior Seminar

CLAS 471 (.5 unit)
Barich

This capstone course is required for senior majors and senior minors in classics. Junior majors and minors may also take the course. Other juniors and seniors with a background in classics may also take the course by permission. The goals of the course are to synthesize an overview of some important aspects of the ancient world and to develop further the skills of research, analysis, and oral and written communication that are fundamental to scholarship and teaching. Each student will prepare a research paper on some aspect of classical antiquity. The student will write the paper in multiple drafts under the direction of a classics faculty advisor and the instructor of the course. She or he will also present the ongoing project to the class in order to benefit from its suggestions. The final selection of the paper topic and a prospectus of the project will be due in the second week of class; it is therefore essential that during the preceding spring semester students intending to take the course think carefully about their choice of topic and, in consultation with the instructor, approach an appropriate advisor on the classics faculty. The class will read background material for all the papers, as well as scholarship on several other topics of interest. Faculty in the classics department and allied disciplines will present guest lectures.

Second-Semester Courses

The Roman World

◆ CLAS 102 (.5 unit)
Scaife

This course is an introduction to some of the great works of Latin literature. Texts will range from the comedies of Plautus, to the histories of Livy, Caesar, and Tacitus, to the

speeches of Cicero, to the poetry of Catullus, Horace, Ovid, and of course, Virgil. Through our reading, we will work toward a better understanding of the texts themselves, the people and the culture that produced them, and the meaning and sometimes shocking relevance they hold for us today. We will discuss the themes within these works that are still important in our own society: How can war be justified? Why doesn't (s)he love me? What happens when we die? There's a reason that these texts are called "classics": they have stood the test of time because they are, indeed, timeless. They raise issues and emotions that are relevant and provocative for every age and every person who reads them. Hence they do what all good literature does: they force us not only to think about the culture that produced them but also to think about ourselves. No prerequisite.

Rhetoric in Antiquity

CLAS 255 (.5 unit)
Serfass

Training in rhetoric—the art of public speaking—was a cornerstone of education in antiquity. The techniques developed in Greece and Rome for composing and analyzing speeches remain invaluable today, but the formal study of these techniques has all but disappeared from undergraduate curricula. This course seeks to fight this trend. In the opening weeks, we will read ancient handbooks on rhetoric, which anatomize the strategies and tropes available to the public speaker, and will engage in classroom exercises in speechmaking developed millennia ago. We will then examine the crucial role that rhetoric played in three venues: the assembly of democratic Athens, the criminal courts of republican Rome, and the cathedrals of Christian bishops in late antiquity. We will read and analyze extant speeches delivered in these three venues, by figures such as Pericles, Cicero, and John Chrysostom, as well as comparable speeches delivered by more contemporary figures such as Churchill,

Lincoln, and Martin Luther King Jr. It is hoped that the academic study of ancient rhetoric will aid students in developing their own skills as public speakers. No prerequisites.

Individual Study

CLAS 394 (.5 unit)
Staff

This course may be taken either to supplement the work of another course in the department or to pursue a special course of reading not otherwise provided. Prerequisites: permission of instructor and department chair.

GREEK Year Courses

Elementary Greek

◆ GREK 111Y-112Y (1.5 units)
Hahnemann

This course prepares students to read classical prose and dramatic dialogue in verse as a solid basis for studying ancient Greek literature in the original. By the time they finish the main textbook just before spring break, students will have read more than fifty pages of increasingly sophisticated Greek. They will then begin to read excerpts from Plato and Euripides. Along with these and other authors, the textbook readings introduce topics from the history and culture of classical Athens. No previous knowledge is required or assumed. No prerequisites.

Senior Honors

GREK 497Y-498Y (1 unit)
Staff

This course offers independent study in Greek for senior candidates for honors. Prerequisite: permission of instructor.

First-Semester Courses

Intermediate Greek: Herodotus and Lysias

GREK 201 (.5 unit)
Serfass

So that students may cultivate their skills as readers of continuous Greek prose, we will read in this course selections from the histories of Herodotus, the chronicler of the Persian Wars, and, in its entirety, a speech written by Lysias for a man defending himself from a charge of murder in an Athenian court. The syntax and vocabulary of Attic Greek will also be reviewed.

Advanced Greek: Plato

GREK 301 (.5 unit)
Bennett

In Advanced Greek, students improve their skills in reading Greek and discuss scholarship on the author or authors being read that semester. Each semester the readings change, so that GREK 301 and 302 can be taken, to the student's advantage, several times. Barring further suggestions from students, we expect to read Plato's *Symposium* in the fall of 2006. This is Plato's most dramatic dialogue, involving nine vivid characters. As a discussion of Eros, it is approached in intensity only by Plato's *Phaedrus*. Socrates' concluding speech offers his most memorable view of the Platonic forms, and, finally, the portrait of the drunken Alcibiades is unsurpassed anywhere.

Individual Study: Ancient Greek

GREK 393 (.5 unit)
Staff

This course may be taken either to supplement the work of another course in the department or to pursue a special course of reading not otherwise provided. Prerequisites: permission of instructor and department chair.

Second-Semester Courses

Intermediate Greek: Homer's *Odyssey*

GREK 202 (.5 unit)
Serfass

It is a great pleasure to read Homer in Greek, and this course seeks to help students do so with accuracy and insight. Students will acquire a working knowledge of Homeric vocabulary and syntax, and will explore some of the key literary and historical questions that have occupied readers of the *Odyssey*. After reading the first book of the poem, which introduces us to the lay of the land in Ithaca, we will read at length of Odysseus' sojourn among the Phaeacians, whom the hero regales with the tale of the fantastic tribulations that he endured before he arrived, battered and naked, on their shores.

Advanced Greek: Greek Literary Genres

GREK 302 (.5 unit)
Staff

This course is a continuation of GREK 301. The readings vary from year to year. Suggestions from students are welcome.

Individual Study: Ancient Greek

GREK 394 (.5 unit)
Staff

This course may be taken either to supplement the work of another course in the department or to pursue a special course of reading not otherwise provided. Prerequisites: permission of instructor and department chair.

LATIN Year Courses

Elementary Latin

◆ LATN 101Y-102Y (1 unit)
Barich

This course meets three times a week. Its aim is twofold: (1) to give students a thorough knowledge of the grammar and vocabulary employed by Roman writers from the second cen-

tury BC through the second century AD, and (2) to have students read increasingly unadapted passages from those writers. After completing this course, the student will be prepared to read with good comprehension the works of great writers such as Cicero and Virgil. The study of Latin enhances the student's capability to think analytically and to deal with language in abstract terms. These skills are transferable, and their usefulness extends far beyond the study of Latin. Assignments usually require from one-and-a-half to three hours to complete. Experience has shown that prior study of a foreign language is not necessary for a student to succeed in this course. Assiduous attendance is crucial, as is the on-time completion of all assignments. There will be daily homework, frequent written assignments, and regular tests and quizzes throughout the year. The course has a three-hour final examination in May. No prerequisites.

Elementary Latin (Intensive Section)

LATN 111Y-112Y (1.5 units)
Scaife

This section of Elementary Latin will meet five times a week, as opposed to three times a week, and is constructed with the following students in mind: those who (1) are working toward a classics major or minor, (2) are considering a classics major or minor, (3) are serious about continuing to read Latin in some other capacity after completing the beginning grammar course (for example, students considering further degrees in the fields of English, medieval studies, or linguistics), or (4) have had previous experience in Latin, although previous knowledge of the language is not required for this section.

This course will prepare students for reading actual Latin texts by gradually introducing increasingly longer passages of Latin to translate. For the last few weeks of the course students will read unadapted passages from Caesar's *Gallic War Commentary* and selections from the letters of Pliny the Younger and the poems of Catullus.

Senior Honors

LATN 497Y-498Y (1 unit)
Staff

This course offers independent study for senior candidates for honors. Prerequisite: permission of instructor.

First-Semester Courses**Intermediate Latin: Prose**

LATN 201 (.5 unit)
Staff

This course is intended for students who have completed LATN 101Y-102Y or have mastered the fundamentals of Latin grammar through two or more years of study in high school.

Advanced Latin: Plautus

LATN 301 (.5 unit)
Scaife

Do you think the ancient Romans were a bunch of overly serious men walking around in togas and always making serious and bold statements like “Carthage must be destroyed”? Think again. The plays of Plautus are classic—and funny—comedies full of mistaken identity, young men in love with courtesans, rich misers, arrogant soldiers, and, best of all, the impish Puck-like character who holds the plot together with his quips, puns, jokes, and hare-brained schemes. The boy always gets the girl, the bad guy always gets his comeuppance, and the reader always leaves laughing. In this course we will read one or two of Plautus’ comedies, along with a selection of scholarly articles on the author and his works.

Individual Study: Latin

LATN 393 (.5 unit)
Staff

This course may be taken either to supplement the work of another course in the department or to pursue a special course of reading not otherwise provided. Prerequisites: permission of instructor and department chair.

Second-Semester Courses**Intermediate Latin: Virgil’s Aeneid**

LATN 202 (.5 unit)
Barich

This course will focus on Virgil’s *Aeneid*, which ancient Romans by consensus considered their greatest literary achievement, and which T. S. Eliot in the twentieth century called “the classic of all Europe.” Students will read a significant and representative portion of Virgil’s epic poem in Latin. Emphasis will be placed on improving reading fluency and on appreciating the often subtle intricacies of Virgil’s poetic language and the untranslatable music of his verse. Attention will be given both to understanding Virgil in his cultural and historical context and to exploring his continuing significance.

Advanced Latin: The Age of Nero

LATN 302 (.5 unit)
Serfass

In the popular imagination, Nero is remembered mainly for his despotic excesses. But the emperor was also a patron of the arts, and his reign witnessed a renaissance of Latin literature. In this course, we will read from three prose works produced during or attesting to Nero’s reign. We will read all of Seneca’s *Pumpkinification of the Divine Claudius*, whose content may surprise those familiar only with the author’s philosophical works. Then we will turn to *Trimalchio’s Dinner*, the longest extant portion of Petronius’ *Satyricon*, which offers an exuberant description of an all-night banquet in the villa of a rich arriviste. Finally, we will read excerpts from the historian Tacitus’ masterly account of Nero’s principate, in which both Seneca and Petronius appear. The course will be run as a seminar, combining close translation and exegesis of assigned Latin texts with a discussion of selected secondary sources.

Individual Study: Latin

LATN 394 (.5 unit)
Staff

This course may be taken either to supplement the work of another course in the department or to pursue a special course of reading not otherwise provided. Prerequisites: permission of instructor and department chair.

SANSKRIT Year Course**Individual Study: Sanskrit**

SANS 293Y-294Y (1 unit)
McCulloh

Prerequisites: GREK 111Y-112Y or permission of instructor and department chair. Please note that this course may NOT be used to satisfy the language requirement.

HEBREW Year Course**Individual Study: Elementary Hebrew**

HEBR 293Y-294Y (1 unit)
Miriam Dean-Oting, professor of religious studies

This course may be offered on an individual basis; see the instructor for details. Please note that this course may NOT be used to satisfy the language requirement.

Additional courses available another year may include the following:

- CLAS 101 The Greek World
- CLAS 112 Greek Literature in English: Drama
- CLAS 140 Slavery in the Ancient Mediterranean World
- CLAS 230 Religions of the Roman Empire
- CLAS 240 Women and Men in Antiquity
- CLAS 271 Roman History