

CLASSICAL STUDIES

Department of Classics

Why major study in Classics?

- ⇒ **T**he influence of ancient Greece and Rome pervades our every-day life, from the Greek concept of democracy and the political structures of the Roman Republic, the architecture of many of our nation’s public buildings and monuments to the motto of the **University of California** (*‘fiat lux,’* meaning ‘let there be light’) and the names of prominent companies (think Nike, ASICS [Anima Sana In Corpore Sano], Valeant Pharmaceuticals, and Lucent Technologies, to name a few).
- ⇒ **C**lassics is interdisciplinary by nature, involving the study of some of the greatest and most influential western literature and art, along with political and military history, as well as social issues such as gender roles and sexuality, religion, the development of legal systems, and slavery.
- ⇒ **O**ur discipline considers different kinds of evidence, including ancient texts, surviving buildings and other structures, and artifacts uncovered through archaeological excavation.
- ⇒ **S**tudents who study Classics are motivated by the desire to understand these cultures but also find that this study leads to an examination of questions that are relevant to all human cultures -- questions concerning the limits of human nature, the role of religion in human life, the purpose and scope of social and political organizations, the place of literature, myth, and history in society, and so on. Consequently, Classics illuminates not only the past, but is entirely relevant to the present.

WHAT OUR STUDENTS SAY...

“There are very few subjects that don’t have some sort of Classical basis or influence, from science to the humanities. I study Classics because it is the foundation for much of western civilization. I also like how studying Greek and Latin has made me a more precise thinker and writer.”

—Katey Hobkirk

“I study Classical Greek and Latin in order to more intimately understand the unique and complex ideas of ancient philosophers, historians, orators, and dramatists, and by extension I am able to catch a glimpse of ancient western civilization that has greatly influenced our own.”

—Luke Loper



Paths of study. The Department offers a major in Classics with three possible emphases. Students may choose an emphasis in: (i) Greek and Latin Language and Literature, (ii) Latin Language and Literature, or (iii) Classical Civilization. Students are encouraged to consult with the Classics faculty regarding the appropriate choice of major and design of their programs.





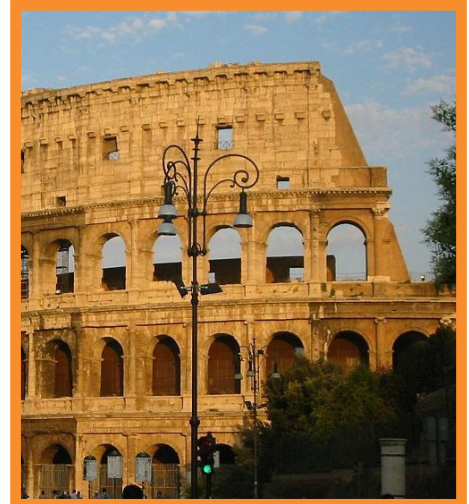
Know the Facts

Famous Classics students include Anthony Fauci, J.K. Rowling, Tom Hiddleston, Chris Martin, Vince Lombardi, and California Governor Jerry Brown!

Classics majors consistently have some of the highest GRE scores of all undergraduates.

According to Harvard Magazine, Classics majors (along with math majors) have the highest success rates of any major in law school.

After graduation, UCI Classics majors have gone on to graduate programs in Classics, and career fields in areas like public policy, library science, anthropology, archaeology, education, as well as law school, and medical and dental school.



Highlights. The Department of Classics aims to provide the undergraduate student with a working knowledge of the **origins** and heritage of the civilizations of **ancient Greece and Rome**. The Department is committed to a twofold purpose: (1) disseminating interest in and knowledge of Classical Civilization through the teaching of **Greek and Latin language** and literature; and (2) helping students, through courses in Classical literature, history, civilization, mythology, and religion taught through English translations, to appreciate the achievements of **Greek and Roman culture** and their pervasive influence on our own civilization.

Career Opportunities. **Graduate and professional schools** in medicine, law, management, and other fields welcome students with training in Classics. Business, industry, and technology companies are well acquainted with the **value** of an education in Classics. They are aware that students with a strong background in a respected and challenging major such as Classics are **disciplined thinkers** who can express themselves in clear, coherent, and cogent language, capabilities that are considered valuable in future **physicians, lawyers, and managers**. It is also an excellent preparation for advanced study in other academic disciplines such as archaeology, history, comparative literature, philosophy, and linguistics, as well as for **theological studies** and for work in a wide range of the humanities and social sciences.

Honor Society. **Eta Sigma Phi**, the national collegiate honor society for students of Greek and Latin, was founded in 1927 to promote the study of Classics at the university level and to foster exchange between students of Classics at different college campuses. The requirements for formal membership in the honor society are: 1) at least two quarters of either Greek or Latin and 2) no grade lower than a B in any Greek or Latin class.

ONLINE INFORMATION

catalogue.uci.edu/schoolofhumanities/departmentofclassics/

www.humanities.uci.edu/classics/

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