

## Interested in This Major?

**Current Students:** Visit us in Curtin Hall, Room 813, call us at 414-229-3239, or email Professor Kevin Muse at [kmuse@uwm.edu](mailto:kmuse@uwm.edu)

**Not a UWM Student yet?** Call our Admissions Counselor at 414-229-7711 or email [let-sci@uwm.edu](mailto:let-sci@uwm.edu)

**web:** [uwm.edu/classics](http://uwm.edu/classics)



## What Is Classics?

Classics is the study of the literature, languages, cultures and societies of ancient Greece and Rome.

Classical culture is where we find many of our “firsts”:

- the first epics and dramas
- the first philosophical writings
- the first histories and novels
- the first work on rhetoric
- the first writings about natural sciences.

It is to classical civilization that we look for exciting stories of myth or early events that transformed world history. Classics forms the foundation of the liberal arts. Indeed, the very idea of a liberal arts education originated with the Greeks and Romans.

## Why Study Classics?

Students take Classics courses for many reasons and come to us with a wide range of interests. Among the subjects you may study with us are:

**Literature:** Read Ancient Greek and Roman epics (the Iliad, Odyssey, Aeneid), tragedy, comedy, history, biography, and more, either in English or in the original Greek and Latin, and learn about the cultures and societies that produced them.

**Languages:** Students may choose to study Greek and Roman literary works in English translation or in the original Greek and Latin languages. Many students elect to take Latin or Greek to fulfill their language requirement, and students may also major or minor in Greek or Latin or both.

Latin and Greek are valuable for learning medical terminology.

**History, Religion, Art and Archaeology:** Classics courses are natural supplements for students majoring or minoring in History, Religious Studies, Anthropology, or Art History. Our courses cover many important topics of literary, artistic, religious, political, intellectual, and social history.

## Preparation for Graduate School

Many Classics majors go on to graduate studies or professional programs. Studies demonstrate how well Classics prepares students for their chosen vocation:

- Classics majors have some of the highest Graduate Records Exam scores of all undergraduates (*Princeton Review*)
- Classics majors have better acceptance rates to medical school than biology majors (Association of American Medical Colleges)
- Classics majors have higher success rate in law school than economics or political sciences majors (*Harvard Magazine*)

## Major Requirements

Classics offers three concentrations: Classical Civilization, Ancient Greek Language and Literature, and Classical Latin Language and Literature. Both the Greek and Latin concentrations require a 3.0 GPA in, respectively, Greek and Latin language courses in order to declare the major.

**Classical Civilization Concentration.** This concentration is intended for students who wish to study classical literature and culture without pursuing coursework in the original languages. A total of 33 credits is required, at least 15 of these must be at the 300-level or above and taken at UWM.

Course #	Course Name
Classic 170	Classical Mythology, 3 credits
Classic 201	Introduction to Greek Life and Literature, 3 credits

Classic 202	Introduction to Roman Life and Literature, 3 credits
9 credits in the Classics curricular area (not Greek or Latin) at the 300-level or above.	
15 elective credits to reach the 33 minimum total with at least 15 at the 300-level or higher	

Students must complete the L&S research requirement in the context of a Classics, Greek, or Latin course of their choosing at the 300-level or above, under the supervision of the instructor of that course.

The list of approved electives includes courses not only from the Classic, Greek and Latin curricular area but related courses from Art History, Hebrew Studies, History, and Philosophy.

**Ancient Greek Language and Literature**

**Concentration.** The Ancient Greek Language and Literature Major Concentration requires the completion of 33 credits, including the following:

Course #	Course Name
Greek 103	First Semester Greek, 4 credits
Greek 104	Second Semester Greek, 4 credits
Greek 205	Third Semester Greek, 4 credits
12 additional credits in Greek at the 300-level or above	
Classic 201	Intro to Greek Life and Literature, 3 credits
6 credits chosen from Greek, Latin, and Classic courses	

Students must complete the L&S research requirement in the context of a Greek or Classic course of their choosing at the 300-level or above, under the supervision of the instructor of that course.

**Classical Latin Language and Literature**

**Concentration.** The Classical Latin Language and Literature Major Concentration requires the completion of 33 credits, including the following:

Course #	Course Name
Latin 103	First Semester Latin, 4 credits
Latin 104	Second Semester Latin, 4 credits
Latin 205	Third Semester Latin, 4 credits
12 additional credits in Latin at the 300-level or above.	
Classics 202	Introduction to Roman Life and Literature, 3 credits
6 credits chosen from Latin, Greek, and Classic courses	

Students must complete the L&S research requirement in the context of a Latin or Classic course of their choosing at the 300-level or above, under the supervision of the instructor of that course.

Well-Known Classics Majors

- J.K. Rowling, Author
- W.E.B. Dubois- Co-Founder of the NAACP
- Vince Lombardi, Football Coach
- Tom Hiddleston, Actor
- Ted Turner, Founder of CNN
- Teller, Half of the magic act Penn & Teller
- Toni Morrison, Author
- Chris Martin, Lead singer of Coldplay
- Boris Johnson, British politician
- Chuck Geschke, Founder of Adobe software company
- Sigmund Freud, Psychologist
- James Baker, Former U.S. Secretary of State

**Classics Minor**

The same concentrations available for the major are available for the minor: Classical Civilization, Ancient Greek Language and Literature, and Classical Latin Language and Literature.

Completion of a minor requires a minimum of 21 credits, at least 9 of which must be upper-division courses (300-level and above) completed at UWM. See course catalog for details.

**Certificate in Ancient Mediterranean Studies**

Many students find the Certificate in Ancient Mediterranean Studies (CAMS) to be highly complementary to a Classics major. This interdisciplinary certificate program focuses on the civilizations of the Ancient Mediterranean world and in particular on Greece and Rome through core courses in Latin or Greek language, Art History and History. Additional non-core credits can be taken in approved course in Anthropology, Classics, English, Hebrew Studies, Philosophy and Comparative Literature. A minimum of 24 credits is required for the certificate, similar to a minor.

Students may obtain a certificate in Ancient Mediterranean Studies with Language Proficiency, if they also complete 9 credits in Latin or Greek courses numbered 300 and above or pass a proficiency exam.

Revised 06/16

This sample four-year plan shows just one possible pathway to earning a degree with this major in four years. This plan **does not** replace the advice of your advisor, and students are cautioned to meet regularly with their advisor to create a personalized plan that matches their particular circumstances. This plan also follows the degree requirements for students who began their college education in Fall of 2013 or later. If you started college prior to Fall of 2013, your degree requirements may be different.

### Degree Requirements (brief summary):

1. English Proficiency and UWM Oral and Written Communication (OWC) GER - English 102 (fulfills Part A) and one OWC-Part B course.
2. Math Proficiency, UWM Quantitative Literacy (QL) GER, and Formal Reasoning – two courses can satisfy all three requirements. Some courses have prerequisites, however, so a student may end up taking more than two total classes depending on his/her placement test scores. Students will usually take Math 103 or 105 AND three credits in either a 200-level or above math course, Philosophy 211, or an approved Letters & Science statistics course.
3. Foreign Language – 4 semesters of a single Foreign Language (or 3 semesters of one language and 2 semesters of another language) (May be satisfied through 4 years of a single Foreign Language in high school.)
4. L&S Humanities (HU) – 12 credits
5. L&S Social Sciences (SS) – 12 credits
6. L&S Natural Science (NS) – 12 credits including one lab
7. L&S International (Int'l) – 9 credits usually accomplished in conjunction with Humanities and/or Social Science courses
8. UWM Arts GER – 3 credits
9. UWM Cultural Diversity GER (CD) – 3 credits usually accomplished in conjunction with a Humanities or Social Science course
10. 120 credits including 90 credits in L&S and with 36 of the 90 credits in L&S upper-level (numbered above 300) courses
11. Complete the Classics major requirements in one of the concentrations:
  - for all concentrations – 33 credits with at least 15 at the 300-level or above completed at UWM

Classical Civilization concentration:

  - Classic 170, 201, and 202
  - 9 credits from Classic curricular area (300-level or above)
  - 15 elective credits from Classic, Greek, or Latin (up to 6 credits may include approved, related courses)

Ancient Greek concentration

  - Greek 103, 104, 205
  - 12 credits Greek electives numbered 300 and above
  - Classic 201
  - 6 credits in Classic, Greek, or Latin electives

### Classical Latin concentration

- Latin 103, 104, 205
- 12 credits Latin electives numbered 300 and above
- Classic 202
- 6 credits in Classics, Greek, or Latin electives

### Sample Four Year Plan:

There are hundreds of courses that satisfy various requirements and courses can count towards more than one requirement. For example, Classic 201 counts towards the major and as a humanities. (This sample assumes no high school Foreign Language was taken and that the student placed into college-level math and English.)

(Classical Civilization Concentration used in this example)

	Semester 1	Semester 2
Year 1	English 101	English 102 (OWC-A)
	Math 103 or 105 (QL-A)	QL-B course
	Classic 170 (HU) (Int'l)	Classic 201 (HU) (Int'l)
	L&S Social Science	Arts GER
	1st semester foreign language	2nd semester foreign language
Year 2	Classic 202 (HU) (Int'l)	Classic/Greek/Latin elective
	OWC-B course	Classic upper-level
	L&S Natural Science with lab	L&S Social Science
	L&S Social Science	L&S Natural Science
	3rd semester foreign language	4th semester foreign language
Year 3	Classic/Greek/Latin elective	Classic/Greek/Latin elective
	Classic upper-level	Classic upper-level
	L&S Natural Science	L&S Natural Science
	L&S upper-level	L&S upper-level
	L&S upper-level	L&S Social Science
Year 4	Classic/Greek/Latin upper-level elective	Classic/Greek/Latin upper-level elective
	L&S cultural diversity	L&S upper-level
	L&S Humanities, not Classic	L&S Humanities, not Classic
	L&S upper-level	L&S upper-level
	L&S upper-level	L&S upper-level