

Interested in This Major?

Current Students: Visit us in Curtin Hall, Room 814, call us at 414-229-3239, or email Professor Elisabetta Cova at covae@uwm.edu

Not a UWM Student yet? Call our Admissions Counselor at 414-229-7711 or email let-sci@uwm.edu

web: 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.

Revised 09/18

