Classics

Overview

Classics is the study of the languages and cultures of ancient Greece and Rome. To study classics is to enter into a world that stretches from Europe to western Asia and North Africa, and in time from the Bronze Age to the fall of Rome and beyond. As a student of classics, you’ll acquire a deep understanding of the civilizations of Greece and Rome, whose role in shaping the modern world is immeasurable.

Classics is an interdisciplinary field combining language study in Greek and Latin with work in archaeology, art history, history, economics, gender and women’s studies, philosophy, theater studies and other disciplines. This field gives you a wide experience of the liberal arts.

Special Opportunities

Students are able to tailor their studies to match their interests, selecting from major tracks that focus on Latin and Greek language, classical civilization, or medieval studies. We support our students who wish to combine their study of classics with other programs, such as teacher certification or a certificate in museum studies.

International Opportunities and Study Abroad

We offer a wide range of opportunities to spend a semester or summer abroad, usually during or following your junior year. Classics majors can study in Rome or Athens, gaining firsthand knowledge of the monuments and artifacts of classical civilizations while continuing their studies of Latin and ancient Greek. You might also participate in an archaeological project, or take classics courses at any number of College-approved international programs.

Selected Courses

Elementary Greek, Elementary Latin; Classical Mythology; Greek Oratory; Homer, Hesiod & Homeric Hymns; Latin Epic Poetry; Roman Drama; Ancient Comedy; Roman Foundation Myths; Greek Tragedy; The Roman World; Romans, Barbarians, and Children of Abraham; Roman Political Culture; The Age of Augustus; Beauty Stand Still Here; Classical Mythology in Western Art
### Faculty

**Tobias Myers, Assistant Professor of Classics**  
B.A., University of Colorado at Boulder; M.A., Ph.D., Columbia University  
Homer Studies; Greek and Latin literature; ancient magic and religion

**Nina Papathanasopoulou, Visiting Assistant Professor of Classics**  
B.A. National and Kapodistrian University of Athens; M.A., Ph.D., Columbia University  
Greek drama and performance; classical mythology and its reception, especially through modern dance; Greek art, architecture; Latin poetry

**Darryl Phillips, Associate Professor of Classics, Chair, Department of Classics**  
A.B., Stanford University; Ph.D., Duke University  
Ancient Greek and Roman history; Latin literature of the late Republic and Augustan age; Roman topography

### Why Major in Classics

- It’s fascinating and you get to read some of the world’s greatest literature.
- Learning about the past offers a broader perspective on the present.
- Learning Latin and Greek trains your mind to fit details into a bigger picture, and to absorb, analyze and interpret information efficiently and thoughtfully.
- Classicists’ problem solving and critical thinking skills make them competent leaders.
- Mastering Greek and Latin grammar will improve your English writing, expression and communication skills.
- Studying ancient literature invites and rewards creativity and imagination.
- By constantly being intellectually challenged, classics students are trained to cope better with all of life’s challenges and to pursue any profession.
- Classics is the foundation of the liberal arts education.

### About Connecticut College

Connecticut College is a private, highly selective liberal arts college with 1,900 students and more than 40 majors in the arts, sciences, social sciences and humanities, as well as the option for students to self-design majors. The College offers a high level of intellectual challenge, a campus culture that supports students to tailor their educational experience to their own interests and goals, and a four-year career development program that teaches students how to translate a liberal arts degree into a first job or graduate school admission. Connecticut College is situated in the small New England seaport of New London.