MODERN GREEK STUDIES*

*Modern Greek Studies is offered exclusively as a concentration.

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http://www.columbia.edu/cu/classics/

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When one visits Rome or Athens, they also visit the many layers of physical, historical, and cultural development that have contributed to the complex evolution of those cities. When one tours the Roman Forum or the Greek Parthenon, they set foot on monuments whose physical impressiveness symbolizes political strength and historical importance; in a very physical way they experience the past. When one studies Latin and Greek language and culture, they embark on a tour of an alternative kind, making their way through texts and other cultural forms—such as paintings, sculptures, and philosophical ideas—that bring them directly into contact with the Greco-Roman past. Literature, philosophy, history, art and architecture, linguistics, papyrology, religion: all (and more) are branches of investigation to which the modern student of classics/classical studies has access through the surviving literary and material evidence.

But when one studies in the original language Virgil’s Aeneid, say, or Plato’s philosophical writings, they find that ancient Greek or Latin literature deals with issues and ideas that are, for us, of central contemporary importance: e.g., How can I be happy? What is the best political constitution for our (or any) state? What responsibilities do I have to the society in which I live? What national significance is served or owed by literature?

The study of Greek and Latin language and culture concentrates in one main area (ancient Greece and Rome) and on many of the questions that are of direct pertinence to the ways in which modern lives are shaped and lived; at the same time, Greco-Roman literature and philosophy, so fundamental to the later development of the Western tradition, boast works of great intrinsic worth and interest. While all Columbia students get an introduction to classical texts in Literature Humanities and Contemporary Civilization, classics/classical studies provides a more advanced study of ancient cultural issues and habits of mind already sampled in the Core.

Study abroad in Greece or Italy offers a variety of educational experiences that are continuous with those of the major, enriching both linguistic expertise and cultural awareness. Students in classics have the opportunity to take part in archaeological digs abroad and, on occasion, to assist faculty in research projects that require, for example, bibliographical collection or the checking of research data.

Many majors pursue graduate study in classics and classical studies. Upon earning their graduate degrees, they often embark on teaching careers in universities, colleges, and high schools. Many graduating majors also enter a number of other professional fields, among them law, banking, accountancy, publishing, and museum-work. Employers tend to find that students in classics are articulate on paper, as well as orally; are organized of mind; and have good skills in general reasoning, an ability developed by the study of Greek and Latin language. In effect, the study of classics opens up a wide array of options, both in education and in the wider world.

The program of the department aims for a comprehensive understanding of classical literature and culture, and the mastery of Greek and Latin on which such understanding depends. Careful study of the language occupies the largest part of the first-year courses and is not omitted in the more advanced courses. Although literature becomes the chief subject only in the advanced courses, important authors like Homer, Plato, and Virgil are studied as literary texts already in the intermediate courses. A wide variety of courses are offered in translation.

Through a joint program with Barnard, the department offers a broad range of subjects. The department annually offers four advanced courses in each language (at the 3000- or 4000-level), the content of which changes each year in order to provide a curricular range and to balance authors and genres over a two-year period.

Opportunities for individual projects of reading and research are available. Students are also permitted to take graduate courses if they are sufficiently prepared. Additionally, they can supplement their studies within the department through work in other departments, such as art history and archaeology, history, philosophy, and the other departments of languages and literature.

It is not necessary to have previously studied either language in order to major in it. A student starting Greek or Latin at Columbia can meet all the requirements of a major within an ordinary undergraduate program.

In Fulfillment of the Language Requirement

Students beginning the study of Greek or Latin at Columbia must take four terms of either of the following two-year sequences:

Greek

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<tr>
<th>Sequence</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GREK UN1101-UN1102</td>
<td>Elementary Greek I and Intermediate Greek II</td>
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<tr>
<td>GREK UN2101-UN2102</td>
<td>Intermediate Greek I and Intermediate Greek II: Homer</td>
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Latin

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With the permission of the director of undergraduate studies, GREK UN2102 Intermediate Greek II: Homer may be taken before GREK UN2101 Intermediate Greek I.

The intensive elementary courses GREK UN1121 Intensive Elementary Greek and LATN UN1121 Intensive Elementary Latin may be substituted for the two-term UN1101-UN1102 sequence. The intensive intermediate courses GREK S2121Q and LATN S2121Q may be substituted for the two-term UN2101-UN2102 sequence.

LATN UN2101 Intermediate Latin I should be taken before LATN UN2102 Intermediate Latin II.
For students with secondary-school training in Greek or Latin, the director of undergraduate studies determines, on the basis of records and test scores, what further work is needed to fulfill the language requirement.

Advanced Placement

The department grants 3 credits for a score of 5 on the Latin AP exam, which also satisfies the foreign language requirement, upon successful completion (with a grade of B or higher) of a Latin class at the 3000-level or higher.

Major Program

The department offers a major in classics and a major track in classical studies. The major in classics involves the intensive study of both Greek and Latin, as well as their cultural matrix; the track in classical studies offers a more interdisciplinary approach. The major in classics is recommended for students planning to continue the study of classics in graduate school. The department also participates in the interdepartmental ancient studies program and offers a concentration in classics; these are all described below.

The major in classics and the track in classical studies are designed in part to build on the experience of the ancient world that undergraduates have acquired at Columbia in the Core Curriculum (especially in Literature Humanities). The major in classics is structured on the principle of gradual and closely monitored linguistic progress from the elementary (1100-level) to the advanced (3000- and 4000-levels) and ultimately to the literature survey courses (GU4105-GU4106) in Greek and/or Latin.

Those majors intending to embark on graduate study in classics are especially encouraged to undertake, in their senior year, an independent research project (UN3998). This option is designed to allow students to personalize their experience in the major by conducting advanced study in a specialized area under the guidance of the specializing faculty member of their choice.

UN3998 is required in the classical studies track. Otherwise, students in classical studies are not required in the classical studies track. Otherwise, students in classical studies are not required to take advanced courses beyond UN3996 The Major Seminar, but are expected to follow a coherent plan of study by taking a sequence of cognate courses in different but related departments (e.g., art history and archaeology, history, etc.).

The director of undergraduate studies is responsible for overseeing the path of study followed by each student in classics or classical studies. Through close interaction with the director of undergraduate studies, as well as with other faculty members where appropriate, each major is strongly encouraged to debate the strengths and weaknesses of his or her own trajectory of study even as the requirements for the major are being completed.

Students should contact the director of undergraduate studies with any questions about the classics majors and course offerings. The director of undergraduate studies can provide students with a worksheet to help in planning their progress toward major requirements.

Professors

Kathy Eden
Helene P. Foley (Barnard)
Carmela V. Franklin
Stathis Gourgouris
John Ma (Chair)
Kristina Milnor (Barnard, Chair)
Seth R. Schwartz

Associate Professors

Marcus Folch
Joseph Howley
Elizabeth Irwin
Ellen Morris (Barnard)

Assistant Professors

Alan Ross

Senior Lecturer

Elizabeth Scharffenberger

Lecturers

Dimitrios Antoniou
Nikolas Kakkoufa
Darcy Krasne

Major in Classics

The major in classics involves a program in both Greek and Latin languages and literatures, and in Greek and Roman civilization. Students generally emphasize the study of one of the languages (the primary language), but significant study of the other (secondary) language is required as well.

The major requires the completion of 11 courses (a minimum of 34 points) and must include the following:

1. In a primary language:
   • Four courses at or above the UN2100-level;
   • The Major Seminar UN3996;
   • Two courses from the following four advanced options: GU4105, GU4106, GU4139, UN3998 (any others may count toward the four upper level requirement).

2. In a secondary language:
   • Two courses at or above the UN2100-level.

3. Two ancient culture courses, including:
   • One course in the culture of the primary language;
   • One course in any aspect of ancient history or culture (HIST, AHIS, PHIL, CLLT, CLCV). All substitutions must be approved by the director of undergraduate studies.

The classical languages follow a standard track of elementary (1100-level) and intermediate (2100-level) levels, followed by 3000- and 4000-level classes that may generally be taken in any order.

Although it is easier to complete the major if at least one classical language is begun no later than the first year, it is possible to begin one classical language in the sophomore year and the other in the junior year and still complete the major.

Those planning to go on to graduate study in classics are urged to take both terms of GU4105-GU4106 if possible, to write a senior research
thesis, and to acquire a reading knowledge of German and preferably also of French (Italian is also useful).

To be eligible for departmental honors and prizes, students must take UN3998.

**Major Track in Classical Studies**

The major track in classical studies requires the completion of 11 courses (a minimum of 35 points) and must include the following:

1. Five courses, at or above the UN1102-level, in either or both Latin and Greek;
2. The Major Seminar UN3996;
3. Four classes in Ancient History, Art, Philosophy, Religion, and Civilization. Note that certain courses may be 6 credits, e.g., ICCS's City of Rome course, and may count as two courses towards this requirement. Students in doubt about a course's relevance should confirm it with the director of undergraduate studies as soon as possible;
4. Senior Thesis UN3998, completed on a chosen aspect of Greek or Roman civilization under the direction of a faculty member (3 points).

Summer courses 1221/1221 are counted as four credits for the purposes of major requirements.

**Major in Ancient Studies**

**Concentration in Classics**

*Students who declared this program before this date should contact the director of undergraduate studies for the department in order to confirm their correct course of study.*

The concentration in classics is designed for those who cannot fit the complete major into their undergraduate schedule, but still wish to take a substantial program in Greek and Latin.

The concentration requires the completion of seven courses (a minimum of 21 points) and must include the following:

1. In a primary language, six courses distributed as follows:
   - Five courses above the 1100-level, three of which must be 3000- or 4000-level;
   - One course from the following three advanced options: GU4105, GU4106, GU4139.
2. One course in Ancient History or Classical Civilization (3 points).

**Special Concentration in Hellenic Studies**

The courses in the Hellenic Studies program are designed to develop the student's proficiency in aspects of Modern Greek culture, language, and history. The minimum credit requirement for the Hellenic Studies Concentration is 21 credits and includes:

1. Modern Greek language and culture courses (Elementary, Intermediate, Advanced, Conversation I & II, Reading in Greek; minimum 8 credits).
2. Students will work with undergraduate advisor to determine their level of the language.
3. Modern Greek Studies interdepartmental courses (CLGM, CSGM, HSGM; minimum 12 credits). The program of study should be planned as early as possible with the Director of Undergraduate Studies.

Students meet with the Director of Undergraduate Studies each semester in order to obtain program approval. Opportunities exist for study abroad in Greece, Cyprus and Turkey for the summer or an academic term for credit. Students work closely with the concentration advisor on the selection of the foreign schools and the transfer of credit.

Students may also wish to write a Senior Thesis which will substitute one Modern Greek Studies interdepartmental seminar. While not required for graduation, the thesis enables a student to be considered for departmental honors. It is advisable to begin planning for the thesis during the student's junior year. Interested students should identify a potential faculty advisor.

**Latin**

LATN UN1101 Elementary Latin I. 4 points.

For students who have never studied Latin. An intensive study of grammar with reading of simple prose and poetry.

LATN UN1102 Elementary Latin II. 4 points.

Prerequisites: LATN V1101.

A continuation of LATN V1101, including a review of grammar and syntax for students whose study of Latin has been interrupted.

LATN UN1121 Intensive Elementary Latin. 4 points.

Designed to cover all of Latin grammar and syntax in one semester in order to prepare the student to enter LATN V1201 or V1202.

LATN UN2101 Intermediate Latin I. 4 points.

Prerequisites: LATN V1101-V1102, or LATN V1121, or the equivalent. Selections from Catullus and from Cicero or Caesar.

LATN UN2102 Intermediate Latin II. 4 points.

Prerequisites: LATN V1201 or the equivalent. Selections from Ovid's Metamorphoses and from Sallust, Livy, Seneca, or Pliny.

LATN UN3012 Augustan Poetry. 3 points.

Prerequisites: LATN V1202 or the equivalent. Selections from Vergil and Horace. Combines literary analysis with work in grammar and metrics.

LATN UN3033 Medieval Language and Literature. 3 points.

Prerequisites: four semesters of college Latin or the instructor's permission.

This survey focuses on translation, grammatical analysis, and discussion of the literary and cultural contexts of medieval Latin prose and poetry. It includes widely read texts by major authors (e.g. Augustin, Boethius, Abelard and Heloise, Bernard of Clairvaux, Petrarch) as well as lesser-known anonymous pieces (e.g. love lyric from the Cambridge Songs and the Carmina Burana, poetic satire from a rotulus, and a novel, the Historia Apollonii).
LATN UN3035 Poetry as Neurosis: Lucan’s Bellum Civile. 3 points.
This course is an intensive study of Lucan’s revolutionary and enigmatic
Bellum Civile, the epic masterpiece of the Neronian age, which was
admired and imitated all through the history of Western culture by
authors such as Dante, Montaigne, Milton, Voltaire, Goethe, Shelley, and
Baudelaire among others. The course will examine major controversies
concerning the form and meaning of the poem, with special emphasis
on the poetic tension created by the narrator’s neurotic personality.
The narration of the 49 BCE civil war between Caesar and Pompey is
for Lucan the pretext for an original and intensely personal reflection
on themes such as political oppression, the role of the individual in
society, nihilism, self-destructiveness, mental disorder, and artistic
creation. The poem will be analyzed from various critical perspectives
that include rhetoric, intertextuality, deconstruction, reception theory, and
psychoanalysis; no previous knowledge of any of these methodologies
is required. Although an acceptable knowledge of Latin (intermediate
or above) is assumed, the primary focus of this course is literary and
sociological interpretation rather than linguistic competence. In addition
to the Latin reading assignments, the poem will also be read entirely
in English translation, allowing students to comprehend the whole
while they engage with particular sections in the original language.
The assignment for each class will include: (1) approximately five hundred
lines to be read in English translation; (2) translation of short Latin
passages, whose size may be adapted to the level of the class/student;
(3) secondary readings.

LATN UN3309 Lucretius. 3 points.
Prerequisites: LATN V1202 or the equivalent.
Since the content of this course changes from year to year, it may be
repeated for credit.

LATN UN3310 Selections from Latin Literature: Vergil. 3 points.
Prerequisites: LATN V1202 or the equivalent.
Since the content of this course changes from year to year, it may be
repeated for credit.

LATN UN3980 Post-Baccalaureate Seminar. 3 points.
Open only to students enrolled in the post-baccalaureate certificate
program in Classics.

This seminar aims to provide students in the post-baccalaureate
certificate program with opportunities 1) to (re-)familiarize themselves
with a selection of major texts from classical antiquity, which will be read
in English, 2) to become acquainted with scholarship on these texts and
with scholarly writing in general, 3) to write analytically about these texts
and the interpretations posed about them in contemporary scholarship,
and 4) to read in the original language selected passages of one of the
texts in small tutorial groups, which will meet every week for an additional
hour with members of the faculty.

LATN UN3996 The Major Seminar. 3 points.
Prerequisites: junior standing.
Required for all majors in Classics and Classical Studies. The topic
changes from year to year but is always broad enough to accommodate
students in the languages as well as those in the interdisciplinary major.
Past topics include: love, dining, slavery, space, power.

LATN UN3997 Directed Readings in Latin Literature. 3 points.
Prerequisites: the director of undergraduate studies’ permission.
A program of reading in Latin literature, to be tested by a series of short
papers, one long paper, or an oral or written examination.

LATN UN3998 Supervised Research in Latin Literature. 3 points.
Prerequisites: the director of undergraduate studies’ permission.
A program of research in Latin literature. Research paper required.

LATN GU4010 Selections from Latin Literature: Cicero. 3 points.
Prerequisites: LATIN V3012 or the equivalent.
Since the content of this course changes from year to year, it may be
repeated for credit.

LATN GU4105 Latin Literature of the Republic. 4 points.
Prerequisites: at least two terms of Latin at the 3000-level or higher.
Latin literature from the beginning to early Augustan times.

LATN GU4106 Latin Literature of the Empire. 4 points.
Prerequisites: at least two terms of Latin at the 3000-level or higher.
Latin literature from Augustus to 600 C.E.

Greek

GREK UN1101 Elementary Greek I. 4 points.
For students who have never studied Greek. An intensive study of
grammar with reading and writing of simple Attic prose.

GREK UN1102 Elementary Greek II. 4 points.
Prerequisites: GREK V1101 or the equivalent, or the instructor or the
director of undergraduate studies’ permission.
Continuation of grammar study begun in GREK V1101; selections from
Attic prose.

GREK UN1121 Intensive Elementary Greek. 4 points.
Covers all of Greek grammar and syntax in one term. Prepares the
student to enter second-year Greek (GREK V1201 or V1202).

GREK UN2101 Intermediate Greek I. 4 points.
Prerequisites: GREK V1101-1102 or the equivalent.
Selections from Attic prose.

GREK UN2102 Intermediate Greek II: Homer. 4 points.
Prerequisites: GREK V1101-V1102 or GREK V1211 or the equivalent.
Detailed grammatical and literary study of several books of the Iliad
and introduction to the techniques or oral poetry, to the Homeric hexameter,
and to the historical background of Homer.

GREK UN3309 Imperial Prose. 3 points.
Since the content of this course changes from year to year, it may be
repeated for credit.

GREK UN3310 Selections from Greek Literature II: Homer & Hesiod. 3 points.
Prerequisites: GREK V1201-V1202 or the equivalent.
Since the content of this course changes from year to year, it may be
repeated for credit.
GREK UN3980 The Post-Baccalaureate Seminar. 3 points.  
Open only to students enrolled in the post-baccalaureate certificate program in Classics. 
This seminar aims to provide students in the post-baccalaureate certificate program with opportunities 1) to (re-)familiarize themselves with a selection of major texts from classical antiquity, which will be read in English, 2) to become acquainted with scholarship on these texts and with scholarly writing in general, 3) to write analytically about these texts and the interpretations posed about them in contemporary scholarship, and 4) to read in the original language selected passages of one of the texts in small tutorial groups, which will meet every week for an additional hour with members of the faculty.

GREK UN3996 The Major Seminar. 3 points.  
Prerequisites: junior standing.  
Required for all majors in classics and classical studies. The topic changes from year to year, but is always broad enough to accommodate students in the languages as well as those in the interdisciplinary major. Past topics include: love, dining, slavery, space, power.

GREK UN3997 Directed Readings. 3 points.  
Prerequisites: the director of undergraduate studies' permission.  
A program of reading in Greek literature, to be tested by a series of short papers, one long paper, or an oral or written examination.

GREK UN3998 Supervised Research. 3 points.  
Prerequisites: the director of undergraduate studies' permission.  
A program of research in Greek literature. Research paper required.

GREK GU4009 Sophocles & Aristophanes. 3 points.  
Prerequisites: GREK V1201 and V1202, or their equivalent.  
Since the content of the course changes from year to year, it may be taken in consecutive years.

GREK GU4010 Selections from Greek Literature: Thucydides. 3 points.  
Prerequisites: GREK V1201-V1202 or the equivalent.  
Since the content of this course changes each year, it may be repeated for credit.

GREK GU4105 History of Greek Literature I. 4 points.  
Prerequisites: at least two terms of Greek at the 3000-level or higher. Readings in Greek literature from Homer to the 4th century B.C.

GREK GU4106 History of Greek Literature II. 4 points.  
Prerequisites: at least two terms of Greek at the 3000-level or higher. Greek literature of the 4th century B.C. and of the Hellenistic and Imperial Ages.

Classical Civilization
CLCV UN3059 WORLDS OF ALEXANDER THE GREAT. 3 points.  
CC/GS/SEAS: Partial Fulfillment of Global Core Requirement  
This course looks at the narrative and the historical context for an extraordinary event: the conquest of the Persian empire by Alexander III of Macedonia, conventionally known as “Alexander the Great”. We will explore the different worlds Alexander grew out of, confronted, and affected: the old Greek world, the Persian empire, the ancient near-east (Egypt, Levant, Babylonia, Iran), and the worlds beyond, namely pre-Islamic (and pre-Silk Road) Central Asia, the Afghan borderlands, and the Indus valley. The first part of the course will establish context, before laying out a narrative framework; the second part of the course will explore a series of themes, especially the tension between military conquest, political negotiation, and social interactions. Overall, the course will serve as an exercise in historical methodology (with particular attention to ancient sources and to interpretation), an introduction to the geography and the history of the ancient world (classical and near-eastern), and the exploration of a complex testcase located at the contact point between several worlds, and at a watershed of world history. There will be two weekly lectures and one weekly discussion section.

CLCV V3230 Classics and Film. 3 points.  
This considers cinematic representations of the ancient Mediterranean world, from early silent films to movies from the present day. Explores films that purport to represent historical events (such as Gladiator) and cinematic versions of ancient texts (Pasolini’s Medea). Readings include ancient literature and modern criticism.

Classical Literature
CLLT UN3125 Book Histories and the Classics. 3 points.  
Prerequisites: HUMA CC1001 or HUMA GS1001COCI CC1101 ,HUMA CC1001 or HUMA GS1001 or COCI CC1101  
This seminar will introduce students of classical literature to the history of the Western book, and to the relationship between book history and the transmission and reception history of the literature of ancient Greece and Rome. Students will also learn how to make use of rare books materials including manuscripts and early printed books......
CLLT UN3127 Hercules: Hero, Murderer, Philosopher, Buffoon. 3 points.
Hercules is one of the most ancient, widespread, and enduring figures to emerge from the ancient Mediterranean. He is a figure of multiples: myriad labors, multiple wives, multiple fathers, and multiple identities. Together we will discover a broad range of literature on this hero and-like ancient writers and thinkers—we will use Hercules to explore mortality, divinity, masculinity, madness, and contradiction. We will read Hercules in different ancient genres, with a particular emphasis on Tragedy, Comedy, and Philosophy. The final units of our course will explore contemporary "heroes," including the Hulk, "The Rock," and Disney's Hercules.

CLLT UN3132 Classical Myth. 3 points.
Survey of major myths from the ancient Near East to the advent of Christianity, with emphasis upon the content and treatment of myths in classical authors (Homer, Hesiod, Aeschylus, Euripides, Sophocles, Vergil, Livy, Ovid).

CLLT GU4300 The Classical Tradition. 3 points.
Overview of Greek and Roman literature. Close analysis of selected texts from the major genres accompanied by lectures on literary history. Topics include the context out of which the genres arose, the suitability of various modern critical approaches to the ancient texts, the problem of translation, and the transmission of the classical authors and their influence on modern literature.

Modern Greek

GRKM UN1101 Elementary Modern Greek I. 4 points.
This is the first semester of a year-long course designed for students wishing to learn Greek as it is written and spoken in Greece today. As well as learning the skills necessary to read texts of moderate difficulty and converse on a wide range of topics, students explore Modern Greece's cultural landscape from "parea" to poetry to politics. Special attention will be paid to Greek New York. How do "our," "American," "Greek-American" definitions of language and culture differ from "their," "Greek" ones?

GRKM UN1102 Elementary Modern Greek. 4 points.
Prerequisites: GRKM V1101 or the equivalent.
Continuation of GRKM V1101. Introduction to modern Greek language and culture. Emphasis on speaking, writing, basic grammar, syntax, and cross-cultural analysis.

GRKM UN2101 Intermediate Modern Greek I. 4 points.
Prerequisites: GRKM V1101-V1102 or the equivalent.
Corequisites: students are also required to take the conversation class, GRKM W2111.
This course is designed for students who are already familiar with the basic grammar and syntax of modern Greek language and can communicate at an elementary level. Using films, newspapers, and popular songs, students engage the finer points of Greek grammar and syntax and enrich their vocabulary. Emphasis is given to writing, whether in the form of film and book reviews or essays on particular topics taken from a selection of second year textbooks.