

# DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS

Classics concerns itself with the languages and cultures of the ancient Greeks and Romans, whose civilizations had a central role in shaping the basic conceptual categories of our present cultural, intellectual, professional, and civic lives. Study of Classical languages and cultures fosters broad and deeply informed critical perspectives on the human experience and develops excellent analytical, problem-solving and communication skills.



UW students in the Roman Forum.

## Highlights

UW's Department of Classics is known nationally and internationally as a place where innovative research, excellent instruction, and active mentoring of undergraduate and graduate students are ensuring the preservation and expansion of knowledge of the Classical world for the next generation.

Faculty and students work collaboratively with colleagues across the University in areas including Asian Languages and Literature; Art History; Comparative Literature; Cinema and Media; Comparative Religion; Drama; English; French and Italian Studies; Germanics; Gender, Women & Sexuality Studies; History; the Honors Program; Jewish Studies; Music; Near Eastern Literatures and Civilizations; the Office of Minority Affairs and Diversity; Philosophy; the Walter Chapin Simpson Humanities Center; Spanish and Portuguese Studies; and the UW Libraries.

We also serve as a local hub for the teaching of Classics and offer engaging annual events for teachers of Latin and Classics at all levels.

## Education

The humanities, with their critically informed and historically grounded explorations of fundamental human experiences, are integral to the public good. The Department cultivates a strong sense of stewardship and embraces opportunities to provide access to education in Classical languages and cultures as widely as possible.

The Department offers four undergraduate majors: Classics, Greek, Latin, and Classical Studies. The majors in Classics, Greek, and Latin emphasize the development of expertise in the Classical languages and literatures. The Bachelor of Arts in Classical Studies is for students wishing to explore the literature, history, art, archaeology, and philosophy of Classical Antiquity primarily through English translations. Undergraduate majors deepen and consolidate their explorations of the ancient world in a culminating project, the Senior Essay. Many of our graduates have gone on to become distinguished teachers and scholars; others have pursued successful careers in business, journalism, law, medicine, the arts, and a variety of other fields.

The Department's graduate programs, leading to the MA in Greek, Latin, or Classics and the PhD in Classics, ensure comprehensive and thorough training in the disciplines needed for teaching and for producing original research in the field of Classics. Students may also do supporting work in other departments in such areas as ancient philosophy, ancient and medieval history, art history, literary theory, and linguistics.

Opportunities for study abroad include the quarter-long Classical Seminar in Rome, two-week intensive programs in Rome, and participation in archaeological excavations and field schools.

### STUDENTS (Autumn 2017)

29	Undergraduate majors
34	Undergraduate minors
17	Graduate students
3,759	Total student enrollment (Autumn 2016-Summer 2017)

### DEGREES AWARDED (July 2016-June 2017)

7	Bachelor of Arts degrees
3	PhD degrees

### MAJOR STUDENT AWARDS (Since 2010)

4	Mary Gates Research Scholarships
2	Grand Prizes, UW Libraries Undergraduate Research Award Competition
1	Freshman President's Medal
2	Dean's Medals
1	Presidential Dissertation Fellowship
2	Presidential Fellowships, GO-MAP
1	Alvord Fellowship
1	Antoinette Wills Endowed Scholarship
5	Joff Hanauer Fellowships

## Faculty

Faculty bring a global perspective to the study of Classics, with recent formal and informal collaborations on seven continents. Awards and honors received by Department of Classics faculty include:

- 1 Departmental Professional Equity Award from the Women's Classical Caucus
- 1 Departmental Gold Star Award from the Graduate and Professional Student Senate
- 4 UW Distinguished Teaching Awards
- 4 Simpson Center Humanities Scholars
- 2 Lockwood Professorships in the Humanities
- 1 Solomon Katz Distinguished Lecturer
- 8 UW Royalty Research Fund Awards
- 1 Getty Foundation Grant
- 2 Loeb Classical Library Foundation Awards
- 1 American Philosophical Society Fellowship
- 3 Center for Hellenic Studies Fellowships
- 2 NEH Fellowships for University Teachers
- 1 NEH Summer Stipend
- 1 NEH Albright Institute of Archaeological Research Fellowship
- 1 Martin Lectureship, Oberlin College
- 1 J. H. Gray Lectureship, Cambridge University
- 1 Postdoctoral Rome Prize, American Academy in Rome

## Research & Scholarship

Faculty engage in critical analysis of texts, artifacts, and culture from across the whole range of ancient Greek and Roman civilization, including projects focusing on archaeological, art historical, topographical, historical, historiographical, philosophical, folkloric, and literary studies.

Recent faculty publications include: Ruby Blondell, *Helen of Troy: Beauty, Myth, Devastation*; James J. Clauss and Daniel P. Harmon, translators, *Filippo Coarelli, Rome and Environs, and Archeological Guide*; Alain Gowing, *Empire and Memory*; Alexander Hollmann, *The Master of Signs: Signs and the Interpretation of Signs in Herodotus' Histories*; Deborah Kamen, *Status in Classical Athens*; Olga Levaniouk, *Eve of the Festival: Making Myth in Odyssey 19*; Sarah Culpepper Stroup, *Catullus, Cicero and a Society of Patrons*; and Kathryn Topper, *The Imagery of the Athenian Symposium*.

In addition to pursuing their own research projects in Senior Essays and in graduate work, students have the opportunity to participate in the production of the first complete digital edition of the oldest manuscript of Homer through a local chapter of the international Homer Multitext project.

## Outreach

The Department's activities that serve the local community include:

- offering Latin 103 in select high schools for UW college credit, through the UW in the High School Program;
- an annual Classics conference for K-12 teachers, featuring faculty and teacher presentations and discussions;
- K-12 activities including presentations at high schools and at the Junior Classical League's annual convention and after-school enrichment classes in Latin;
- public lectures at various venues for local associations and programs, such as the Frye Art Museum, Temple Beth Am, and local theaters; and
- co-sponsorship, with the University of Puget Sound, of the local chapter of the Archaeological Institute of America, which brings noted scholars to campus for public lectures on archaeological topics.

## FACULTY (Autumn 2017)

- 5 Professors
- 5 Associate Professors
- 1 Assistant Professor
- 2 Emeritus Professors

## AREAS OF SCHOLARSHIP

Classical Archaeology

Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies

Greek and Roman Historiography

Greek and Roman Linguistics

Greek and Roman Medicine

Greek and Roman Philosophy

Greek and Roman Religion

Greek and Roman Social and Cultural History

Greek Epic, Lyric Poetry, and Drama

Hellenistic Poetry

Literary Theory and Criticism

Roman Literature of All Periods

Roman Topography

The Ancient Novel

The Reception of Classical Texts in the Medieval and Renaissance Periods

Visual Culture

## ENDOWMENTS

Classics Department Endowment Fund

Classics Faculty Fellowship

Classics Student Travel Fund

DeLacy Classics Endowment

Harvey Bruce Densmore Memorial Fund

Jim Greenfield Endowed Classics Scholarship

Roseanna Wabel McDermott Endowed Fund for Study Abroad

John and Mary McDiarmid Lectureship

Thomas and Joyce Morgan Endowment for Classics

Nesholm Graduate Fellowship

last update: December 2017