Classics majors and minors study the language, literature, history, and culture of Greek and Roman antiquity. The department offers a wide range of topics and has strengths in Greek and Latin literature, mythology, Greek history, the ancient economy, and ancient philosophical writing. Students may also study the reception of classical antiquity in medieval through contemporary Western cultures by taking classical traditions courses offered by other departments. The wide range of choices includes philosophy, religion, political theory, art history, film studies, English, and comparative literature.

Classics majors may pursue a concentration in Latin, Greek, or both languages. For a classics minor, students may choose a concentration with readings in Latin or in Greek or a classical studies concentration with sources in English translation only. Additional information about classics programs and courses is available on the department website or in the department office.

The Teaching of Latin
Weinberg College students pursuing a major in classics who also wish to be certified for secondary teaching [https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/education-social-policy/secondary-teaching](https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/education-social-policy/secondary-teaching) of Latin are urged to contact the Office of Student Affairs in the School of Education and Social Policy as early as possible in their academic careers. For information about teaching careers in Latin and opportunities for mentoring and classroom observation, see the director of undergraduate studies in the Department of Classics.

Study Abroad
The department strongly encourages students to undertake study abroad for a summer, a term, or the academic year at, for example, the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome, Arcadia University in Athens, or the summer program at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens. Interested students should consult with the director of undergraduate studies in fall of the previous year to ensure sufficient time to prepare applications and plan for appropriate credit toward the major.

Language Placement
Students must either complete the 100-level language sequence before enrolling in GREEK 201-1 Introduction to Greek Literature or LATIN 201-1 Introduction to Latin Literature or test into the 200-level courses. Completion of the 200-level series or permission of the instructor is a prerequisite for enrollment in 300-level language courses. Placement results may not be counted for credit toward the total number of courses required, e.g., the 6 additional courses for the major. More advanced coursework must be completed instead.

Classical Traditions Courses
Offered in departments other than classics, classical traditions courses give significant attention to ancient Greece or Rome, or to the use of Greek or Roman culture in some later tradition. They may be used to satisfy certain major and minor requirements. To determine which current courses meet the criteria, students should consult the director of undergraduate studies. Courses that have recently met the criteria include:

**Courses with Readings in Greek**

- **GREEK 101-1 Elementary Greek (1 Unit)** Vocabulary, forms, and syntax of Attic Greek. Course one of three.
- **GREEK 101-2 Elementary Greek (1 Unit)** Vocabulary, forms, and syntax of Attic Greek. Course two of three. Prerequisite: GREEK 101-1 or departmental placement.

**Courses with Readings in Latin**

- **LATIN 101-1 Elementary Latin (1 Unit)** Classical Latin vocabulary, grammar, and syntax with graded readings for translation. Course one of three. Prerequisite: LATIN 101-1 or departmental placement.
- **LATIN 101-2 Elementary Latin (1 Unit)** Classical Latin vocabulary, grammar, and syntax with graded readings for translation. Course two of three. Prerequisite: LATIN 101-1 or departmental placement.
- **LATIN 101-3 Elementary Latin (1 Unit)** Classical Latin vocabulary, grammar, and syntax with graded readings for translation. Course three of three. Prerequisite: LATIN 101-1 or departmental placement.
- **LATIN 201-1 Introduction to Latin Literature (1 Unit)** Grammar and vocabulary review. Readings in Cicero, Virgil, and Catullus; emphasis on literary analysis. Prerequisite: LATIN 201-1 or departmental placement.
- **LATIN 201-2 Introduction to Latin Literature (1 Unit)** Grammar and vocabulary review. Readings in Cicero, Virgil, and Catullus; emphasis on literary analysis. Prerequisite: LATIN 201-1 or departmental placement.
- **LATIN 201-3 Introduction to Latin Literature (1 Unit)** Grammar and vocabulary review. Readings in Cicero, Virgil, and Catullus; emphasis on literary analysis. Prerequisite: LATIN 201-1 or departmental placement.
- **LATIN 301-0 Readings in Latin Literature (1 Unit)** Selected topics and authors including Virgil, Horace, Ovid, Cicero, Tacitus, and Seneca. May be repeated for credit with different topics. Prerequisite: LATIN 201-3 or consent of instructor. [Literature Fine Arts Distro Area](https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/classics/classics-major)
- **LATIN 313-0 Latin Prose Composition: Advanced Syntax & Composition (1 Unit)** Rapid review of Latin morphology and basic grammar, followed by careful study of the syntax of Latin prose and by practice in prose composition. Prerequisite: LATIN 201-3 or equivalent.
- **LATIN 399-0 Independent Study (1 Unit)** Individual program of study under the direction of a faculty member. For advanced students only. Permission of department required.

**Programs of Study**

- [Classics Major](https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/classics/classics-major)
- [Classics Minor Concentrations](https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/classics/classics-minor-concentrations)

See below for Courses with Readings in Greek (p. 1), and Courses with Readings in English (p. 2).
GREEK 101-3 Elementary Greek (1 Unit) Vocabulary, forms, and syntax of Attic Greek. Course three of three. Prerequisite: GREEK 101-2 or departmental placement.

GREEK 115-1 Accelerated Elementary Ancient and Biblical Greek (1 Unit) This is the first in an accelerated two-quarter series designed to teach students to read ancient Greek texts, from the biblical New Testament to Homeric poetry and Platonic philosophy. These two quarters will teach all the fundamentals of grammar and vocabulary and lead students directly into a course dedicated to reading the Greek New Testament, and classical Greek texts thereafter. Usually taught in the Winter.

GREEK 115-2 Accelerated Elementary Ancient and Biblical Greek (1 Unit) This is the second in an accelerated two-quarter series designed to teach students to read ancient Greek texts, from the biblical New Testament to Homeric poetry and Platonic philosophy. These two quarters will teach all the fundamentals of grammar and vocabulary and lead students directly into a course dedicated to reading the Greek New Testament, and classical Greek texts thereafter. Usually taught in the Spring. Prerequisite: GREEK 115-1 or departmental placement.

GREEK 201-1 Introduction to Greek Literature (1 Unit) Review of basic grammar and vocabulary. Representative selections from Greek authors in their historical and cultural contexts. Prerequisite: GREEK 101-3, GREEK 115-2, or departmental placement.

GREEK 201-2 Introduction to Greek Literature (1 Unit) Review of basic grammar and vocabulary. Representative selections from Greek authors in their historical and cultural contexts. Prerequisite: GREEK 201-1, or departmental placement.

GREEK 201-3 Introduction to Greek Literature (1 Unit) Review of basic grammar and vocabulary. Representative selections from Greek authors in their historical and cultural contexts. Prerequisite: GREEK 201-2, or departmental placement.

GREEK 201-4 Introduction to Greek Literature: Intensive (1 Unit) For students who have completed GREEK 201-1 or equivalent. Review of ancient Greek grammar and syntax and development of reading skills to prepare for third-year level. Four classes a week. May not receive credit for both GREEK 201-4 and GREEK 201-2, GREEK 201-3.

GREEK 301-0 Readings in Greek Literature (1 Unit) Selected authors and topics. Topics recently offered include Homer, Plato, Aeschylus, Herodotus, Sophocles, and Thucydides. May be repeated for credit with different topics. Prerequisite: GREEK 201-3 or consent of instructor. Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

GREEK 399-0 Independent Study (1 Unit) Individual program of study under the direction of a faculty member. For advanced students only. Permission of department required.

Courses with Readings in English

These courses offer an understanding of classical culture and its influence in history, literature, and art. There are no prerequisites in Greek or Latin.

CLASSICS 101-6 First-Year Seminar (1 Unit) WCAS First-Year Seminar

CLASSICS 110-0 A Study of Scientific Vocabulary Through Classical Roots (1 Unit) Greek and Latin etymology in the vocabulary of the sciences. Designed primarily for science or medical students. Self-paced independent study.

CLASSICS 210-0 The World of Homer (1 Unit) Introduction to the history and material culture of Iron Age Greece. Society, economy, art, and archaeology of the Greek world that gave rise to the Homeric epic. CLASSICS 210-0 and HUM 205-0 are taught together; may not receive credit for both courses. Ethics Values Distro Area Historical Studies Distro Area Interdisciplinary Distro - See Rules (https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/#schoolrequirementstext) Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

CLASSICS 211-0 Greek History and Culture: From Homer to Alexander the Great (1 Unit) An introduction to the history, culture, and peoples of the ancient Greek world from the age of Homer (c. 7th century BCE) to Alexander the Great (323 BCE). Daily life; political, social, artistic, and intellectual developments. Special attention paid to Athenian democracy as well as the politics of other city-states, including Sparta. Primary sources include texts, art, and archaeology. Ethics Values Distro Area Historical Studies Distro Area Interdisciplinary Distro - See Rules (https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/#schoolrequirementstext) Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

CLASSICS 212-0 Rome: Culture and Empire (1 Unit) Development and character of the Roman Republic and Empire, emphasizing political and social institutions. Roman origins of Europe's politics, religion, literature, and ideas. Ethics Values Distro Area Historical Studies Distro Area Interdisciplinary Distro - See Rules (https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/#schoolrequirementstext) Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

CLASSICS 245-0 Classics and the Cinema (1 Unit) Analysis of how literary and social/political assumptions intersect in the reception of two related dramatic forms, one originating in 5th century Greece, the other in 20th century United States. Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

CLASSICS 250-0 Literatures of the Ancient World (1 Unit) Introduction to ancient Mediterranean literatures through study of thematically related texts from various cultures and periods and to interpretive techniques and debates about them. Content varies; may be repeated for credit with different topic. Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

CLASSICS 260-0 Classical Mythology (1 Unit) Introduction to Greek and Roman traditional narratives. Emphasis on the social, political, and religious values that they engage. Ethics Values Distro Area Interdisciplinary Distro - See Rules (https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/#schoolrequirementstext) Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

CLASSICS 310-0 Archaeology of the Ancient Mediterranean (1 Unit) Content varies; may be repeated for credit with different topic. Recent topics include archaeology and nationalism, archaeology of the theater, and archaeology of empire. Prerequisite: Any CLASSICS 200-level course, selected courses in anthropology and art history, or permission of instructor. Historical Studies Distro Area Interdisciplinary Distro - See Rules (https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/#schoolrequirementstext) Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

CLASSICS 320-0 Greek and Roman History (1 Unit) Content varies; may be repeated for credit with different topic. Recent topics include Greek music and the city, Aristotle and democracy, and ancient Greek law. Historical Studies Distro Area

CLASSICS 330-0 Ancient Economy (1 Unit) Introduction to the preindustrial economy of the Roman Empire, highlighting its difference from postindustrial economies. Farming, transportation, demography, urbanism, technology, trade, and economic growth. Historical Studies Distro Area

CLASSICS 340-0 Greek and Roman Drama (1 Unit) Analysis of key works of ancient drama, chiefly tragedy and comedy; their material setting in the Greco-Roman Mediterranean; ancient drama's
literary and performance aspects and social, political, and economic contexts.

**CLASSICS 350-0 Greek and Latin Literature (1 Unit)** Content varies; may be repeated for credit with different topic. Recent topics include love in antiquity, Roman comedy, and Roman literature and imperialism.

**CLASSICS 360-0 Origins of Greek Democracy (1 Unit)** Emergence of the world’s first democracies in archaic Greece, 750-460 BCE. Topics include the rise of the city-state, tyranny, Sparta, the effects of military reform, the invention of written law, and the development and consequences of democratic ideology. [Historical Studies Distro Area Interdisciplinary Distro](https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/#schoolrequirementstext) [Social Behavioral Sciences Distro Area](https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/#schoolrequirementstext)

**CLASSICS 370-0 Greek and Roman Religion (1 Unit)** History and analysis of pagan religions of Greece and Rome and religions of the Roman Empire. Literary and material evidence; ancient and modern theories about ancient religions. [Ethics Values Distro Area](https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/#schoolrequirementstext)

**CLASSICS 390-0 Topics in Greco-Roman Civilization (1 Unit)** Content varies; may be repeated for credit with different topic. Recent topics include stoicism and ancient Rome in Chicago.

**CLASSICS 395-0 Research Seminar (1 Unit)** Development of critical reading and writing skills and acquisition of information literacy as applied to resources in classics. Required for the major. Prerequisite: junior or senior standing, or permission of the instructor.

**CLASSICS 397-0 Exhibiting Antiquity: The Culture and Politics of Display (1 Unit)** Examination of the construction of Mediterranean antiquity through modes of reception since 1750. Analysis of programs of collecting and display and the intersection of institutional and scholarly agendas. ART_HIST 318-0, CLASSICS 397-0 and HUM 397-0 taught together; may receive credit for only 1 of these courses. [Historical Studies Distro Area Interdisciplinary Distro](https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/#schoolrequirementstext) [Literature Fine Arts Distro Area](https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/#schoolrequirementstext)

**CLASSICS 399-0 Independent Study (1 Unit)** Individual program of study under the direction of a faculty member. For advanced students only. Permission of department required.