
Classics

In the College of Arts and Letters

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Faculty

Emeritus: Eisner, Genovese, Hamilton, Warren
Chair: Smith
Associate Professor: Smith
Assistant Professor: Cook
Lecturer: Hame

Offered by the Department of Classics and Humanities

Major in classics with the B.A. degree in liberal arts and sciences.
Emphasis in classical humanities.
Emphasis in classical language.
Minor in classics.

The Major

Classics is the study of the languages, literatures, and civilizations of ancient Greece and Rome. These are the oldest European and American traditions of the humanities and the liberal arts. Classics literally means works of the first class or rank, and their profound truths and disciplined forms have ensured their lasting relevance.

All Classics majors take two or more years of Greek or Latin. They may choose the language emphasis that allows them to study one or both languages, or they may choose the broader emphasis in classical humanities. Classics majors have at their disposal the Burnett Classics Seminar Room with its library and media resources. In addition to small language classes, close academic advising, and the fellowship of a small department with diverse interests, Classics majors culminate their studies with a senior seminar.

Although the prime purpose of the Classics major is to satisfy a quest for the original intellectual and artistic values of Western civilization, graduates enjoy a range of professional choices in addition to academic careers in Classics and various humanities disciplines. Classics majors are well prepared for law school, and with supplementary coursework in business, economics, or information systems, a Classics graduate can be very competitive in the business world. Classics graduates also have an advantage as editors, librarians, journalists, and technical writers. Opportunities are available in public relations, government, and other fields where general knowledge, perspective, and a facility with language serve not only the public good but one's own success.

High School Equivalents

High school foreign language courses may be used for purposes of placement in college courses and may be counted toward meeting the language requirement in various majors. These high school courses will not count as college credit toward graduation.

Secondary school language courses can be used as follows:

1. The first **two years** of high school level language count as the equivalent of the first semester of a college level course, although students with fewer than three years of high school level language may complete the first semester college course for graduation credit.

2. The first **three years** of high school level language count as the equivalent of the first two college semesters, although students with fewer than four years of high school level language may complete the second semester college course for graduation credit. Students who have completed three years of foreign language in high school will not receive credit for the first semester college course unless at least five years separate the last high school course and the first college course.

3. **Four years** of high school level language count as the equivalent of three college semesters or five college quarters, thus fulfilling the language requirement.

Advising

All College of Arts and Letters majors are urged to consult with their department adviser as soon as possible; they are required to meet with their department adviser within the first two semesters after declaration or change of major.

Major Academic Plans (MAPs)

Visit <http://www.sdsu.edu/mymap> for the recommended courses needed to fulfill your major requirements. The MAPs Web site was created to help students navigate the course requirements for their majors and to identify which General Education course will also fulfill a major preparation course requirement.

Classics Major

With the B.A. Degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences (Major Code: 15041)

All candidates for a degree in liberal arts and sciences must complete the graduation requirements listed in the section of this catalog on "Graduation Requirements." No more than 48 units in classics courses can apply to the degree.

During their last semester all seniors majoring in classics shall submit to the department a portfolio of their scholarly work.

A minor is not required with this major.

Emphasis in Classical Humanities

Preparation for the Major. Classics 101G-202G; or Classics 101L-202L or 250L; and six units from Classics 120, 140, Comparative Literature 270A, History 105, Humanities 140. (14-16 units)

Students should note that a number of the upper division required and recommended courses listed below have lower division prerequisites, but these prerequisites do not constitute requirements per se for the completion of the major.

Language Requirement. The language requirement is automatically fulfilled through coursework for preparation for the major plus one language course in the major.

Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement. Passing the Writing Proficiency Assessment with a score of 10 or above or English 508W or Rhetoric and Writing Studies 305W or 500W with a grade of C (2.0) or better. See "Graduation Requirements" section for a complete listing of requirements.

International Experience. The department encourages international experience for its majors. A student who has completed the Preparation for the Major may apply to the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome (ICCS) or an equivalent, approved program in Italy or Greece for a semester abroad. Units taken during this semester abroad may apply toward the major if approved in advance by a department adviser.

Major. A minimum of 30 upper division units to include Classics 320, 330, History 502, 503, Humanities 490; nine units selected from Art 568, History 501, Humanities 402, Philosophy 411 (additional prerequisite required), upper division courses in Classics; six units of Greek or Latin.

Emphasis in Classical Language

Preparation for the Major. Classics 101G-202G; Classics 101L-202L or 250L; and six units from Classics 120, 140, Comparative Literature 270A, History 105, Humanities 140. (14-16 units)

Language Requirement. The language requirement is automatically fulfilled through coursework for preparation for the major plus one language course in the major.

Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement. Passing the Writing Proficiency Assessment with a score of 10 or above or English 508W or Rhetoric and Writing Studies 305W or 500W with a grade of C (2.0) or better. See "Graduation Requirements" section for a complete listing of requirements.

International Experience. The department encourages international experience for its majors. A student who has completed the Preparation for the Major may apply to the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome (ICCS) or an equivalent, approved program in Italy or Greece for a semester abroad. Units taken during this semester abroad may apply toward the major if approved in advance by a department adviser.

Major. A minimum of 30 upper division units to include Classics 320 and Humanities 490; History 502 or 503; three to nine units from upper division courses in Classics, Art 568, History 502, 503, Philosophy 411 (additional prerequisite required); 12-18 units of Greek or Latin.

Classics Minor

The classics minor consists of a minimum of 18-20 units selected from one of the following:

Language – 19-20 units, of which nine units must be upper division. At least 16-17 units must be taught in Greek or in Latin and three units selected from Classics 310, 320, 330, 340.

Nonlanguage – 18 units, of which 12 units must be upper division. A minimum of six upper division units must be selected from classics courses, and up to six units may be selected from Art 568, History 502, 503, or Philosophy 411 (additional prerequisite required).

Courses in the minor may not be counted toward the major, but may be used to satisfy preparation for the major and general education requirements, if applicable. A minimum of six upper division units must be completed in residence at San Diego State University.

Language Requirement for the B.A. Degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences

Students electing the study of Greek or Latin to fulfill the language requirement for the Bachelor of Arts degree in liberal arts and sciences must successfully complete Classics 303G or 303L or the equivalent level of achievement. The usual sequence of course work is either Classics 101G, 202G, and 303G, OR Classics 101L, 202L, and 303L. Refer to section of catalog on "Graduation Requirements" for additional ways to satisfy competency.

Courses (CLASS)

Refer to *Curricula and Courses and University Policies* sections of this catalog for explanation of the course numbering system, unit or credit hour, prerequisites, and related information.

LOWER DIVISION COURSES

Classics includes courses in Greek and Latin as well as non-language courses. Greek course numbers have a G suffix; Latin courses have an L suffix.

No credit will be given for Classics 101G, 202G, 303G, 304G taken out of sequence.

No credit will be given for Classics 101L, 202L, 303L, 304L taken out of sequence.

CLASS 101G. Ancient Greek I (5) [GE]

Beginning classical Greek. Basic grammar, vocabulary. Not open to students who have completed three years of high school ancient Greek unless the third course was completed five or more years ago. Not open to students with credit in Classics 250G.

CLASS 101L. Latin I (5) [GE]

Beginning classical Latin. Basic grammar, vocabulary. Not open to students who have completed three years of high school Latin unless the third course was completed five or more years ago. Not open to students with credit in Classics 250L.

CLASS 120. English Words from Latin and Greek (3) [GE]

Latin and Greek words and bases and their English derivatives. Etymology, word analysis and construction, language history, and structure.

CLASS 140. Heritage of Greece and Rome (3) [GE]

Greek and Roman art, literature, arts, and institutions in the Western tradition.

CLASS 202G. Ancient Greek II (5) [GE]

Prerequisite: Classics 101G.

Continuing classical Greek. Grammar, vocabulary, syntax. Preparation for Classics 303G. Not open to students who have completed four years of high school ancient Greek unless the fourth course was completed five or more years ago. Not open to students with credit in Classics 250G.

CLASS 202L. Latin II (5) [GE]

Prerequisite: Classics 101L.

Continuing classical Latin. Grammar, vocabulary, syntax. Preparation for Classics 303L. Not open to students who have completed four years of high school Latin unless the fourth course was completed five or more years ago. Not open to students with credit in Classics 250L.

CLASS 250L. Accelerated Latin (8) (Offered only in Extension)

Intensive beginning classical Latin. Basic grammar, vocabulary, syntax. Preparation for Classics 303L. Not open to students who have completed four years of high school Latin unless the fourth course was completed five or more years ago. Not open to students with credit in Classics 101L and 202L.

CLASS 296. Experimental Topics (1-4)

Selected topics. May be repeated with new content. See *Class Schedule* for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree.

- C. Experimental Topics in Classics.
- G. Experimental Topics in Greek.
- L. Experimental Topics in Latin.

UPPER DIVISION COURSES (Intended for Undergraduates)

CLASS 303G. Reading Greek Prose (3) [GE]

Prerequisites: Classics 202G; and completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.C., Humanities required for nonmajors.

Reading classical prose authors such as Xenophon or Plato in original Greek. Attention to vocabulary, syntax, style, and historical-cultural context.

CLASS 303L. Reading Latin Prose (3) [GE]

Prerequisites: Classics 202L or 250L; and completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.C., Humanities required for nonmajors.

Reading classical prose authors such as Caesar or Cicero in original Latin. Attention to vocabulary, syntax, style, and historical-cultural context.

CLASS 304G. Reading Greek Poetry (3) [GE]

Prerequisites: Classics 303G; and completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.C., Humanities required for nonmajors.

Reading classical poets such as Homer or Euripides in original Greek. Attention to vocabulary, syntax, style, and historical-cultural context.

CLASS 304L. Reading Latin Poetry (3) [GE]

Prerequisites: Classics 303L; and completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.C., Humanities required for nonmajors.

Reading classical poets such as Catullus or Ovid in original Latin. Attention to vocabulary, syntax, style, and historical-cultural context.

Classics

CLASS 310. Greek and Roman Myth and Legend (3) [GE]

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.C., Humanities required for nonmajors. Recommended: Rhetoric and Writing Studies 200.

Myths and legends of Greece and Rome in literature, arts, and religion.

CLASS 320. Epic and the Novel (3) [GE]

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.C., Humanities required for nonmajors. Recommended: Rhetoric and Writing Studies 200.

Four classic works in English translation: Homer's Iliad and Odyssey, Vergil's Aeneid, and Apuleius' Golden Ass. Literary criticism in historical-cultural contexts.

CLASS 330. Tragedy and Comedy (3) [GE]

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.C., Humanities required for nonmajors. Recommended: Rhetoric and Writing Studies 200.

Classical dramas in English translation. Playwrights such as Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, Aristophanes, Plautus. Ancient theater, literary criticism.

CLASS 340. Ancient Greece and Rome (3) [GE]

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.C., Humanities required for nonmajors. Recommended: Rhetoric and Writing Studies 200.

Literary, artistic, and intellectual achievements of the classic world. Great cultural traditions and influences.

CLASS 350. Classics and Cinema (3) [GE]

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.C., Humanities required for nonmajors.

Ancient Greece and Rome as represented in major cinematic productions. Screenplays compared with Greek and Latin sources in English translation.

CLASS 496. Topics in Classical Studies (1-4)

Topics in classical languages, literatures, cultures, and linguistics. May be repeated with new content. See *Class Schedule* for specific content. Maximum credit nine units. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree.

- C. Topics in Classics.
- G. Topics in Greek.
- L. Topics in Latin.

UPPER DIVISION COURSE (Also Acceptable for Advanced Degrees)

CLASS 599. Special Study (1-3)

Prerequisites: Consent of major or graduate adviser; to be arranged by department chair and instructor. For 599C: Classics 304L or 304G. For 599G: Classics 304G. For 599L: Classics 304L.

Directed individual study. Maximum credit nine units in any combination of 599C, 599G, 599L.

- C. Special Study in Classics.
- G. Special Study in Greek.
- L. Special Study in Latin.

