Get to know CLASSICS

It can be said that studying Classics can lead to a wider appreciation of human values and achievements, and a more objective understanding of ourselves and our times.

Classics refers to the study of the Greek and Roman worlds. Multi-disciplinary in approach, it involves the studies of history, literature, archaeology, religion, mythology, drama and philosophy, in addition to the ancient languages of Greek and Latin. Today our understanding of Greek and Roman culture is further enhanced by the latest digital techniques that increasingly pervade studies in archaeology, epigraphy, papyrology, and ancient science and medicine. At Queen’s, students have the opportunity to get hands-on experience in the latest techniques by participating in archaeological excavations and projects overseas supervised by our own faculty, or through a variety of on-campus projects and assignments such as working with the Diniacopoulos collection of artifacts at Queen’s. The chance to share in the tradition of over 170 continuous years of instruction in Greek and Latin at Queen’s creates an excellent opportunity for students to deepen their love and knowledge of the ancient world in a small class setting, supported by our knowledgeable and congenial faculty and staff.

“With archaeology projects in Italy, Macedonia and at our Castle in England, we get students out of the classroom and into the field.”

Degree OPTIONS

- Bachelor of Arts (Honours)
- Bachelor of Arts (General)
- Major / Medial / Minor in Classical Studies/ Specialization in Classics
- Internship option available

Queen’s ADMISSION

Students apply to Queen’s Arts (QA) through the OUAC (Ontario Universities Application Centre) website (ouac.on.ca). Secondary School prerequisites include six 4U and 4M courses, including a minimum of three 4U courses, one of which must be ENG4U. Applicants outside of Ontario may have additional requirements.

A Common START

Students in our Faculty are admitted into Arts, Science or Computing but the focus is on a common first year. Through self-exploration, and while you settle into university life, you have the opportunity to work with our advisors and faculty to discover your real interests and identify opportunities for success. Sometimes that discovery happens fairly quickly, and for other students it takes some work and time before the “ah-ha!” happens – either way your first year at Queen’s will be a great experience.

Course HIGHLIGHTS

With courses like Doctor, Bloodletter, Surgeon: the Beginnings of Western Medicine; Archaeology Fieldwork Praticum; and Digital Photogrammetry our students expand their thinking beyond the traditional. Our most popular courses include Intro to Greek and Roman Civilization, Ancient Humour, Roman History, and Ancient Science – top those off with one of our ancient language courses such as Latin (a foundation for medicine) or Greek. And who wouldn’t want to finish their studies off spending a summer at our Castle in England taking part in an archaeological dig and getting academic credit for it?
1ST YEAR

GET THE COURSES YOU NEED
- In first year take CLST 102, 103. For Plan requirements, see the Classics website. LATN 110* and GREK 112* are recommended for students pursuing a major or medial. Take CLST 129* if interested in archaeology.
- Each Plan will have at least one required first-year course, including minors. It is important to take a variety of first-year courses to keep as many pathways open as possible for you going into second year. For details see the Arts and Science Academic Calendar.

GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE
- Join teams or clubs on campus such as the Queen's Archaeology Club and the Classics Department Student Council (DSC).
- Volunteer at the Queen's Archives.
- See the AMS Clubs Directory or the Queen's Get Involved page for more ideas.

GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY
- Volunteer on or off campus with different community organizations.
- Attend Classics Department Faculty and Visiting Faculty Presentations and Workshops.
- Connect with Classics professors at social events (Tea with Prof's, etc.) hosted by the Classics DSC.

GET THINKING GLOBALLY
- The Queen’s University International Centre is your first stop to learn how to internationalize your degree or to leverage your existing cross-cultural experience.
- Speak to a QUIC advisor or get involved in their programs, events and training opportunities.
- Certain Classics courses are eligible for the International Studies Certificate.

GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION
- Grappling with program decisions? Go to Majors Night or get some help thinking about career options from Career Services.

2ND YEAR

In second year take CLST 200, 201, and take an additional 6.0 units at the 200-level. LATN 110* and GREK 112* are recommended for students pursuing a major or medial. CLST 129* is required for those interested in Archaeology.
- Please see the Academic Calendar to ensure you are taking the correct courses.
- Want to enhance your degree? Consider a certificate in International Studies or explore other certificates available.

3RD YEAR

Try to complete core requirements A and B (see CLST Major Plan requirements) by the end of Year 3.
- Review Option course requirements to stay on track.
- Need help mapping all of your core, option, supporting and elective courses (including those not listed above) to make sure you will have what you need to complete your degree? Use the Course Mapping Tool on the Arts and Science website.
- If interested, apply for an Undergraduate Student Summer Research Fellowship (USSRF).
- Participate in an Archaeological Dig project.
- Take on more responsibility within different clubs or extracurriculars, like the Alma Mater Society.

Do some targeted networking with alumni working in careers of interest by joining the LinkedIn group Queen's Connects or Classics on Facebook. Check out Career Services networking workshops.
- Keep attending faculty presentations and department social events.

4TH OR FINAL YEAR

In fourth year take 6.0 units at the 400-level.
- Review your Plan to make sure all course requirements are met.
- By fourth year you should be working on your remaining core, option, supporting and elective courses. Make sure to map your minor and/or certificate(s) as well.
- Apply to graduate in SOLUS.

GET THE COURSES YOU NEED
- Consider a 12-16 month QUIP internship.
- Investigate requirements for full-time jobs or other opportunities related to careers of interest. Assess what experience you’re lacking and fill in gaps with volunteering, clubs, or internships – check out the Career Services Skills Workshop for help.
- Consider joining professional associations like the Classical Association of Canada (CAC) and the Canadian Museums Association (CMA). Join groups on LinkedIn reflecting specific careers or topics of interest in Classics. Participate in conferences such as the Inquiry at Queen’s Undergraduate Conference.

GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE
- Go to Majors Night or get some help thinking about career options from Career Services.
- Explore different careers of interest by reading books in the Career Services Career Advising and Resource Area, such as Opportunities in Museum Careers. For more information check out Career Counseling or find and connect with alumni on LinkedIn.

GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY
- Visit careers.queensu.ca/majormaps.html for the online version with links!

GET THINKING GLOBALLY
- Is an exchange in your future? Start thinking about where you would like to study abroad. Apply in January for a 3rd year exchange through your Faculty’s International Programs Office.
- Consider programs such as the College Year in Athens or the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, for which funding may be available.

GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION
- Build your intercultural competence by getting involved with other cultures or by practicing or improving your language skills. Check QUIC’s resources for ideas to go abroad, and volunteer or attend one of their events.
- Consider applying to Classics department directed archaeological digs.
- Start focusing on areas of interest. Research education requirements for careers of interest. If needed, prepare to take any required tests (like the LSAT or GMAT) and get help thinking about grad school from Career Services.

Where could I go after graduation?
- Administration
- Anthropology
- Archaeology
- Archival work
- Art conservation
- Arts administration
- Broadcasting
- Civil service
- Communications
- Copyright law
- Corrections
- Cultural resource management
- Diplomatic service
- Editing
- Education (including ESL)
- Entertainment
- Finance
- Foreign service
- History
- Journalism
- Labour / Industrial relations
- Law
- Library information sciences
- Marketing
- Ministerial work
- Museum work
- Public relations
- Publishing
- Religion and theology
- Research
- Theatre performance
- Tourism
- Translation
- Some careers may require additional training.

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Succeed in the workplace

What employers want
The Canadian Council of Chief Executives list the top 6 skills sought by employers as:
1. People skills
2. Communication skills
3. Problem-solving skills
4. Analytical abilities
5. Leadership skills
6. Industry-specific knowledge

Take the time to think about the unique skills you have developed at Queen’s, starting with the skills list here for ideas. Explaining your strengths with compelling examples will be important for applications to employers and further education. For help, check out the Career Services skills workshop.

What can I learn studying CLASSICS?
- Knowledge of Greek and Roman civilizations, including their history, archaeology, science and literature
- Language skills to interpret and translate texts from Latin and Ancient Greek
- Knowledge of evacuation methods and hands-on experience with archaeological digs
- Oral and written communication through a variety of writing assignments and seminar presentations
- Research skills to synthesize large amounts of information and identify relevant data
- Problem solving to analyze historical problems using primary and secondary sources
- Critical thinking to address assumptions and critique historical arguments
- Logical reasoning to make judgments based on historical evidence
- How to work independently as well as a team and resource and time management

How to use this map
Use the 5 rows of the map to explore possibilities and plan for success in the five overlapping areas of career and academics. The map just offers suggestions – you don’t have to do it all! To make your own custom map, use the My Major Map tool.

A balanced approach leads to long-term success. While you will learn a lot from your studies, taking time to get relevant experience outside of the classroom, build your network, and gain international experience, will position you to be more competitive in your job search or grad school applications.

Get started thinking about the future now – where do you want to go after your degree? Having tentative goals (like careers or grad school) while working through your degree can help with short-term decisions about courses and experiences, but also help you keep motivated for success.

Get the help you need
Queen’s provides you with a broad range of support services from your first point of contact with the university through to graduation. At Queen’s, you are never alone. We have many offices dedicated to helping you learn, think and do.

Ranging from help with academics and careers, to physical, emotional, or spiritual resources – our welcoming living and learning environment offers the programs and services you need to be successful, both academically and personally, and Queen’s wants you to succeed! Check out the Student Affairs website for available resources.