Get to know CLASSICS

We hold that the study of Classics leads 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 advances in technology 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. Students also learn through a variety of on-campus projects and assignments such as working with the Dinaiacopulos collection of artifacts at Queen’s. The chance to share in the tradition of over 175 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, all supported by our knowledgeable and congenial faculty and staff.

Why study in Kingston?

For over 175 years, the Kingston community has been a collection of bright minds. We are proud that our city was named one of the Intelligent Communities across the globe, an accolade largely due to the thousands of students who study here every single year. In fact, the BBC has identified Kingston as one of the top freshwater cities in the world, which might be why Instagram named the city ‘the happiest place on the planet.’ Just a quick drive to Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa and even New York, Kingston is a safe and liveable city. Not only are we known as the freshwater capital of the world, Kingston is arguably the birthplace of hockey. Wondering what to do while you’re attending school? Queen’s has more clubs per capita than any other university in Canada, and Kingston has more restaurants per capita than any other city in North America; your time here is guaranteed to be ‘fresh made daily.’

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

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 excavation 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
- Using primary and secondary sources to analyze and solve historical problems
- Critical thinking to address assumptions and critique historical arguments
- Logical reasoning to make judgments based on historical evidence
- How to work both independently as part of a team
- How to manage both resources and time

Take the time to think about the unique skills you have developed at Queen’s, starting with the skills listed 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.

How to manage both resources and time

- Effective time management
- Prioritization
- Goal-setting
- Task completion
- Resource allocation

How to work both independently and as part of a team

- Leadership
- Collaboration
- Communication
- Negotiation

Course HIGHLIGHTS

With courses like Doctor, Bloodletter, Surgeon: the Beginnings of Western Medicine, and Archaeology Fieldwork Practicum our students expand their thinking beyond the traditional. Our most popular courses include Intro to Greek and Roman Civilizations, Ancient Humour, Roman History, Myth and Religion, and Ancient Science -- top these off with one of our ancient language courses such as Latin or Greek (both are foundations for medicine). And who wouldn’t want to finish their studies spending a summer on a dig in Italy or Macedonia and getting academic credit for it?


That is a degree from Queen’s.
This map is intended to provide suggestions for potential activities and career paths, but everyone’s abilities, experience, and constraints are different. Build your own map using our online tool.

**1ST YEAR**
- In first year take CLST 102, 103. For Plan requirements, see the Classics website. LATIN 110* and GREK 112* are recommended for students pursuing a major or medial. Take CLST 129* if interested in archaeology.
- At least one required first-year course is required for a Classics Major, Medial, and Specialization. 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.

**2ND YEAR**
- In second year take CLST 201, 202, and take an additional 6.0 units at the 200-level. LATIN 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 in the Academic Calendar 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.

**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.

**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.

Visit careers.queensu.ca/majormaps.html for the online version with links!