Why GRADUATE STUDIES in CLASSICS?

Studying Classics leads to a wider appreciation of human values and achievements, and a more objective understanding of ourselves and our times. Multi-disciplinary in approach, Classics 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.

Why QUEEN’S?

The Queen’s MA program stands out for its broad and interdisciplinary nature. Because our graduate program is relatively small, we are able to provide our students with individual attention and support. Our faculty members have expertise in Greek and Roman archaeology, history, ancient science, language and literature, so your research opportunities are vast and varied. You will also have opportunities to get hands-on, global archaeological field experience by taking part in faculty-supervised digs around the Mediterranean world.

FIELDS of Study

The M.A. program offers two fields of study for students with different backgrounds and goals. One field gives our students the competences and skills for a Ph.D. and an academic career. The other is unique for its less traditional approach focusing on field archaeology, cultural heritage management and other non-academic career paths.

- Classics and Archaeology (Greek and Latin required)
- Classical Studies and Archaeology (no Greek or Latin requirements)

We encourage you to identify an area of research interest and contact a potential supervisor before applying.

Visit the Classics Department website to read faculty profiles and learn more about faculty members’ research areas. When you find a faculty member with similar research interests to yours, contact him/her and tell them about your interest in graduate work and related experience. This is also an opportunity for you to find out if the faculty member is accepting new graduate students to supervise.

Program STRUCTURE

The 2-year Classics M.A. program is offered in 2 patterns:

- Pattern I (Thesis): CLAS 800 and CLAS 802, plus 4 half courses, Thesis and Defence.
- Pattern II (Major research paper or Project): CLAS 800, CLAS 802, plus 6 half courses, and major research essay or project.

For both patterns there is also a research language requirement to be completed before finishing the program. Students in the Classics and Archaeology field shall demonstrate the ability to read and comprehend one of the languages of modern scholarship beyond English (e.g. by completing a year-long introductory course). Students in the Classical Studies and Archaeology field shall demonstrate either the ability to read and comprehend one of the languages of modern scholarship beyond English or an ancient
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.

**Achieve Your Academic Goals**
- Start with key priorities like participating in the CLAS 800 ProSeminar, doing well in your coursework, and discussing your research interests and study plan with your supervisor and the graduate coordinator.
- Consider how your course papers can contribute to your essay or thesis.

**Maximize Research Impact**
- Start to think about the audiences for your research.
- If you will be continuing graduate studies, apply for SSHRC and OGS funding.

**Build Skills and Experience**
- Consider participating in the faculty-organized excavations abroad and doing research abroad for your thesis/project. Serve on departmental, faculty or university committees.
- Participate in a faculty-directed Archaeological Dig project (CLAS 808/809/810).
- Check out professional development workshops from School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs professional development and the Centre for Teaching and Learning (CTL).

**Engage With Your Community**
- Explore how you can connect with your community through experiential opportunities on- and off-campus.
- Consider volunteering with different community organizations, museums, and cultural studies groups, such as the Kingston Association of Museums, the Kingston Museum of Healthcare and the Queen’s Archives.
- Consider programs such as the American School of Classical Studies at Athens or the American Academy in Rome Classical Studies summer/longer-term programs.
- If you are an international student interested in staying in Canada, consider speaking with an International Student Advisor.

**Launch Your Career**
- Finding a career that fits starts with knowing yourself. Get help by taking a Career Services workshop or meeting with a career counsellor.
- Check out books like So What Are You Going to do With That? or The Cruising for more information.
- Do some targeted networking with people working in careers of interest, through Queen’s Connects on LinkedIn, the Queen’s Alumni Association, professional associations, and at conferences. Get help from a Career Services workshop.
- Consider joining professional associations like the the Classical Association of Canada, the Archaeological Institute of America, the American Society of Overseas Research, or the Canadian Museums Association.

**What Will I Learn?**
A graduate degree in Classics can equip you with valuable and versatile skills, such as:
- Knowledge and technical skills effective communication skills in multiple forms for diverse audiences
- Information management: prioritize, organize and synthesize large amounts of information
- Time management: Meet deadlines and manage responsibilities despite competing demands
- Project management: develop ideas, gather information, analyze, critically appraise findings, draw and act on conclusions
- Creativity and innovation
- Perseverance
- Independence and experience as a collaborative worker
- Awareness, an understanding of sound ethical practices, social responsibility, responsible research and cultural sensitivity
- Professionalism in all aspects of work, research, and interactions
- Leadership: initiative and vision leading people and discussion

**Where Can I Go?**
A Master’s degree in Classics can take your career in many directions. Many of our MA students choose to continue their academic inquiry with a PhD. Our Master’s students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:
- Academia
- Field Archaeology
- Art Galleries
- Business
- Government
- Law
- Libraries
- Medicine
- Museums
- Publishing
- Education

Taking time to explore career options, build experience, and network can help you have a smooth transition to the world of work after graduation.

Use the 5 rows of the map to explore possibilities and plan for success in the five overlapping areas of career and academic. 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.

How to use this map

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Graduate Studies FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS
- 4-year bachelor degree in Classics or other relevant fields.
- Grade requirements: minimum first class or high second class standing (B+/A-average).

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
- A good knowledge of ancient Greek and Latin is required for the Classics and Archaeology field. There are no language requirements for admission to the Classical Studies and Archaeology field.
- A 5-10 page writing sample to be emailed to the Classics Graduate Program as a PDF.
- In the application you will be required to provide contact information for two referees. Referees will not be contacted until your application is submitted.
- If English is not a native language, prospective students must meet the English Language proficiency requirements in writing, speaking, reading, and listening.

KEY DATES & DEADLINES
- Application due: February 15th to qualify for September admissions. Late submissions will be considered when possible.
- Notification of acceptance: Mid to late March.

Before you start your application, please review the Graduate studies application process.

What about FUNDING?

Students enrolled in the Classics MA program receive a funding package of at least $14,000 per each of the two years of study. Additional funding is available based on academic excellence. Your individual funding package will be described in the letter of offer.

Apply for external funding from OGS, SSHRC and other sources. Queen’s will automatically issue a one time $5,000 award to incoming Masters students who have won federal government tri-council awards. For more information, see the School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs’ information on awards and scholarships.