Classics and Archaeology

Are you interested in battles, myths, astrology, riddles and magic, languages and literature, graphic novels, avatars and cosplay, building models and theatre sets, digging in the dirt, or exploring underwater? If you answered yes to any of these, then Classics and Archaeology at Queen's is a good fit for you! Classics is the study of ancient Greek and Roman civilizations over the past 3,000 years. As a student, you can examine all aspects of these civilizations: ancient Greek and Latin languages, history, religion, warfare, myth, science, philosophy, literature, art, and archaeology.

Alumni Story

“Within the Department of Classics, I found a great community of students at both the graduate and undergraduate level. The professors are friendly and supportive, and the classes are varied and interesting.”
- Craig Harvey, BAH ’11

TOP 4 REASONS to study CLASSICS and ARCHAEOLOGY

1. We take a multidisciplinary approach, involving the study of Greek and Latin languages, as well as history, literature, archaeology, religion, mythology, philosophy, drama, and science.

2. Students have the opportunity to get hands-on experience by participating in our department’s archaeological excavations abroad.

3. During the summer, Bader College offers a Field School in British Archaeology. This intensive five-week program combines two courses on Roman Medieval Britain with the practical learning experience of excavation.

4. We offer exchange opportunities to 100+ schools in over 30 countries.

TOP ALUMNI JOBS

- 6% of alumni work in MUSEUMS, LIBRARIES & GALLERIES
- 9% of alumni work in LAW
- 9% of alumni work in GOVERNMENT
- 36% of alumni work in EDUCATION

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Add a Certificate

Data Analytics
Disability and Physical Activity
Employment Relations
Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Creativity
French for Professionals
Geographic Information Science
Global Action and Engagement
Indigenous Languages and Cultures
International Studies
Media Studies
Sexual and Gender Diversity
Urban Planning Studies

2023-24 Plan Thresholds

Thresholds are made on a competitive basis and are updated annually. To see the thresholds for all programs as well as the latest information, please visit quartsci.com/planselection

Interested in finding out how to augment your degree with Experiential Learning? Learn what opportunities and resources are available for you on the Experiential Learning website. You can also reach out to the team directly at asc.el@queensu.ca.

That is a degree from Queen's.
queensu.ca/classics
2023-2024
Classics and Archaeology
BACHELOR OF ARTS (HONOURS): MAJOR, JOINT HONOURS, MINOR, SPECIALIZATION

1ST YEAR
GET THE COURSES YOU NEED
In first year you will have the chance to explore the foundations of Classics and Archaeology along with some electives.
Attend Majors Night in the Winter term to learn more about Plan options.
Interested in getting a head start in learning and working in a digital world? Take ASCX 150 and develop future-ready skills!

GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE
Join teams or clubs on campus, such as the Classics and Archaeology Departmental 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 and Archaeology Department Faculty and Visiting Faculty Presentations and Workshops.
Connect with Classics and Archaeology professors at social events an (Tea with Profs, etc.) hosted by the Classics DSC.

GET THINKING GLOBALLY
Speak to a QUIC advisor or get involved in their programs, events, and training opportunities.
Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking QUIC's Intercultural Competency Certificate, and research possible immigration regulations.

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.
Build your transferable skills in time management, problem-solving, writing, and more with Student Academic Success Services.

2ND YEAR
Start going deeper into the discipline of Classics and Archaeology, while considering a minor and/or certificate such as International Studies. Learn more about Certificates and Internship options.
Want to make sure your academics are where you want them to be? Visit SASS (Student Academic Support Services) and the Writing Centre for some help.
Develop your entrepreneurial skills by participating in the Dean's Changemaker Challenge (ASCX 200/300).

GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE
Participate in an archaeological dig project. Participate in the Classical Association of Canada's Greek and Latin Sight Translation Competition. Work experience through SWEP or Work-Study Program. Take on more responsibility within different clubs or extracurriculars, like the Alma Mater Society.

GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY
Get involved with the Classics and Archaeology Departmental Student Council (DSC).
Start or continue volunteering with organizations such as the Queen's Archives.

GET THINKING GLOBALLY
Is an exchange in your future? Start thinking about where you would like to study abroad. Apply in January for a third year exchange through the 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
Explore different careers of interest in the Career Services Career Advising and Resource Area. For more information check out Career Cruising or find and connect with alumni on LinkedIn.

3RD YEAR
A chance to start grouping courses in areas of interest, or to keep it more generalized. Track and have planned out your courses

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.
MAJOR MAP

3RD YEAR

- Chance to start grouping courses in areas of interest, or to keep it more general and explore many areas of classics and Archaeology. Meet with an Academic Advisor to make sure you are on track and have planned out your courses for the next year.

- Consider applying to do a 12-16 month internship between your third and fourth year. Apply to be a Classics Undergraduate Teaching Assistant.

- Some targeted networking with mini working in careers of interest joining the LinkedIn group Queen's Connects or Classics and Archaeology Facebook. Check out Career Services working workshops, attending faculty presentations and Department social events.

4TH OR FINAL YEAR

- In fourth year you will have the chance to participate in research-based courses that can lead to Graduate School or to your future career path. Make sure to finish up all your courses for your major and your optional minor and/or certificate(s).

- Interested in working on a real-world problem with an actual client? Take ASCX 400 and develop your consulting and project-management skills.

- In fourth-year seminar courses you will gain greater experience in research, public speaking, and debate. 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 and Archaeology. Participate in conferences such as the Inquiry at Queen’s Undergraduate Conference.

- International students interested in staying in Canada can speak with an International Student Advisor.

- Consider joining one of our archaeological digs.

- Apply to jobs or future education, or make plans for other adventures. Get help from Career Services with job searching, resumes, interviews, Grad School applications, or other decisions. Apply in the fall for SSHRC and OGS scholarships if applying to grad school in Ontario.

- Apply for the Queen’s Career Apprenticeship: Kingston (QCA:K).

What will I learn?

A degree in Classics and Archaeology can equip you with:

• Knowledge of the Romans, the ancient Greeks and the peoples they interacted with, including their history, archaeology, science, and literature
• Language skills to interpret and translate texts from Latin and Ancient Greek and the understanding of scientific and not scientific words with Greek and Latin roots, commonly used in English
• 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 and as part of a team

Where can I go?

A degree in Classics and Archaeology can take your career in many directions. Many students choose to continue their academic inquiry with a Master’s. Our students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:

• Anthropology
• Archaeology
• Classical research and teaching
• History
• Journalism
• Law school
• Library information sciences
• Museum work
• Publishing and editing
• Religion and theology
• Theatre performance

Taking time to explore career options, build experience, and network can help you have a smooth transition to the world of work after graduation.
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. Queen’s wants you to succeed! Check out the Student Affairs website for available resources.

Why study in Kingston?

For 175 years, our community has been more than a collection of bright minds – Queen’s has attracted students with an ambitious spirit. Queen's has the highest retention rates, the highest graduation rates, and one of the highest employment rates among recent graduates. We are a research intensive university focused on the undergraduate experience. The BBC has identified Kingston as one of the GREATEST UNIVERSITY TOWNS in the world – and it is often awarded the safest city in Canada. It is a university city at the core; just a quick drive to Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa and even New York. A university with more clubs per capita than any other university in Canada, and a city with more restaurants per capita than any other city in North America – you will have the experience of a lifetime at Queen’s – and graduate with a degree that is globally recognized among the best.