Application 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 Greek and Roman Literature, History and Archaeology field. There are no language requirements for the Classical Studies and Archaeology field.
• 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’ information on awards and scholarships.

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.
• Greek and Roman Literature, History and Archaeology (Greek and Latin required)
• Classical Studies and Archaeology (no Greek or Latin required)

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 bios 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.

Why MA MAP?

Applying to and Navigating Graduate Studies

The 2-year Classics M.A. program is offered in 2 patterns:
• Pattern I (Thesis): CLAS 400 and CLAS 802, plus 4 half courses, Thesis and Defence
• Pattern II (Major research paper or Project): CLAS 400, CLAS 802, plus 6 half courses, and major research essay or project.

“I cannot describe how invaluable my education at Queen’s has been as I prepare the next generation of classicists (and Classics aficionados). I confidently work with and teach a wide variety of Latin and Greek texts, and incorporate archaeology alongside the textual evidence whenever possible. I am deeply grateful for the amazing education I received at Queen’s.” – Chris Carsswell, MA
**Getting Started**

- 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.
- Find your way through the academic process with help from departmental and Expanding Horizons professional development workshops, the department Graduate Coordinator and the SGS Habitat.

**Intermediate Stage**

- Complete your course requirements for your degree, and begin to research and write your research essay, report or thesis.
- Start regular meetings with your supervisor to ensure your research essay, report or thesis is on track.
- Participate in the CLAS 802 ProSeminar which includes a presentation at the annual Classics Symposium.

**Wrapping Up**

- In consultation with your supervisor, submit your research essay, report or thesis to your reader(s). Complete the necessary steps to degree completion.
- Consider presenting a paper on your research.
- Attend a major conference in your field, such as those sponsored by the annual Classical Association of Canada or the Ontario Classical Association.
- Set up a meeting with the School of Graduate Studies for a Grad Chat to discuss your research interests.

**Skills and Experience**

**Achieve Your Academic Goals**

- Consider participating in the faculty-directed excavations abroad and doing research abroad for your thesis/project. Funding may be available from the Department, the University and other sources.
- Serve on departmental, faculty or university committees.
- Participate in a faculty-directed Archeological Dig project (CLAS 809/810).
- Check out professional development workshops from Expanding Horizons and the Centre for Teaching and Learning (CTL).

**Engage with Your Community**

- Explore activities such as graduate student outreach programs, organizing conferences, and research groups.
- Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking the Intercultural Awareness Training Certificate hosted by QUIC and Four Directions Indigenous Student Centre.
- 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 counselor. Check out books like So What Are You Going to do With That? or The Academic Job Search from the Career Services workshop.
- Start focusing on areas of interest. Research organizations of interest and start putting together your CV or resume for potential positions of interest. Get help from Career Services with job searching, resumes or interviews.

**What Will I Learn?**

- 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 with valuable and versatile skills, such as:
  - Leadership
  - Problem solving
  - Creativity
  - Collaboration
  - Adaptability
  - Communication
  - Critical thinking
  - Research skills
  - Information management
  - Time management
  - Information technology
  - Language skills
  - Writing
  - Speaking
  - Teaching
  - Presenting
  - Counseling
  - Advising
  - Publishing
  - Researching

Visit careers.queensu.ca/gradmaps for the online version with links! *This map is intended to provide suggestions for activities and careers, but everyone's abilities, experiences, and constraints are different. Build your own Grad Map using our online My Grad Map tool.*