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?

Classics has been an important part of the Queen’s community since 1842. Because our graduate program is 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.

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.

FIELDS of Study

- Greek and Roman Literature, History 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.

“**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 Carswell, MA
MA MAP *

MASTER OF ARTS (MA)

GETTING STARTED

- Achieve Your Academic Goals
  - Start with key priorities like participating in the CLAS 800 ProSeminar, doing well in your coursework, and developing a good relationship with your supervisor.
  - Consider how your course papers can contribute to your essay or thesis.
  - Find your way through the academic process with help from professional development workshops, the department Grad Chair and the SGS Habitat.

- 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 positions in student services, the SGS, or media outlets. Look in the AMS Clubs Directory for more ideas.
  - Serve on departmental, faculty or university committees.
  - Participate in a faculty-directed Archaeological Dig project (CLAS 808/810).
  - Check out professional development workshops from Expanding Horizons 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 College Year in Athens or the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, for which funding may be available.

- Launch Your Career
  - Finding a career that fits starts with knowing yourself. Get help by taking a Career Services career planning 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 SGS Habitat.
  - Start reading publications like University Affairs and the Chronicle of Higher Education. Browse non-academic labour market websites. Stay on the lookout for special events like Graduate Student Career forums to explore your career pathways.
  - Check admission test deadlines if needed for further studies.

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.

- Attend or present at a graduate student conference hosted by another educational institution.
- Consider participating in the 3 Minute Thesis (3MT) competition.
- Expand your research audience through social media such as Twitter or a blog.

- Consider positions in student services, the SGS, or media outlets. Look in the AMS Clubs Directory for more ideas.
- Serve on departmental, faculty or university committees.
- Participate in a faculty-directed Archaeological Dig project (CLAS 808/810).
- Check out professional development workshops from Expanding Horizons and the Centre for Teaching and Learning (CTL).

- Practice articulating the skills you have been developing in settings outside the university, such as casual conversation, networking, and interviews. Get help from a Career Services workshop.
- Consider applying to one of the Classics Dept. faculty-directed digs as a volunteer.
- Check out opportunities for extra training through CTL, Expanding Horizons, Mitacs, or other sources to boost your skills.
- Investigate internships from Mitacs and other sources.

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 publication options for 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.
- 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 Classical Association of Canada or the Canadian Museums Association.

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
- Archaeological excavation
- Art Galleries
- Business
- Government
- Law
- Libraries
- Medicine
- Museums

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

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 of 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

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.
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-March.

Before you start your application, please review the [Graduate studies application process](#).

What about FUNDING?

Students enrolled in the Classics MA program receive funding of approximately $13,000 per year. The basic funding package consists of graduate awards and teaching assistantships, and there are also competitions for additional funding based on academic excellence.

Apply for external funding from OGS, SSHRC and other sources. Queen’s will automatically issue a $5,000 top-up to Masters winners of federal government tri-council awards. For more information, see the School of Graduate Studies’ information on [awards and scholarships](#).

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**Department of Classics**

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