Department of Classics and Mediterranean Studies

Contact Information:
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Administration:
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Classics is the study of the history, culture, and languages of the ancient Mediterranean world, with a particular focus on the Greeks and the Romans. At UIC, the field is geographically and chronologically more expansive, also encompassing studies in the Near and Middle East and northern Africa, the medieval through modern periods, and reception. In addition to a wide range of courses in classical studies, students can also learn introductory through advanced Arabic; introductory through intermediate Latin; and Modern Greek.

Students who major in classical studies go on to pursue careers in law and professional scholarship, teach, and find employment in a wide range of fields. Recent graduates have entered law, medical, and divinity schools, while others have taken positions in business, public service, and education. The training students receive in critical reading, analytical thinking, and written and oral rhetoric is highly valued and sought by prospective employers.

The Department of Classics and Mediterranean Studies offers a program leading to the Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Classical Studies. Minors in Classical Studies and Arabic are also offered.

Language Study and Major/Minor

The Major in Classical Studies requires 31 hours, including ARAB 104, GKM 104, or LAT 104 (or the equivalent to be determined by examination). Students choose electives from the fields of art and archaeology, history, classical literature, and Greek or Arabic studies.

The Minor in Classical Studies requires 18 hours but no language. For electives, students must take a combination of courses in ancient through modern Mediterranean history, culture, and art and archaeology.

Distinction

- **Departmental Distinction.** The candidate for departmental distinction must earn a 3.50/4.00 GPA in courses required for the major and a 3.00/4.00 overall GPA (UIC and transfer credit).
- **High Departmental Distinction.** The candidate for high departmental distinction must earn a 3.75/4.00 GPA in courses required for the major and a 3.00/4.00 overall GPA (UIC and transfer credit).
- **Highest Departmental Distinction.** Students who qualify for High Distinction and complete CL 399 with a grade of A will qualify for Highest Distinction.