INTRODUCTION TO THE MAJOR

The Classics Department offers training in ancient Greek and Latin from the ground up, enabling students to encounter texts such as Homer’s Odyssey and Ovid’s Metamorphoses in their original form.

Students have three options: they can major in Greek, in Latin, or in Classical Languages (i.e. both). They contextualize their work in the languages and deepen their understanding of the literature by delving into Greek and Roman civilization (art, philosophy, religion, etc.), in classes led by professors known both for cutting-edge research and for their dedication to undergraduate teaching.

STUDY OPTIONS IN CLASSICS

The motto of Berkeley Classics is “New Insights into an Ancient World.” Classes invite you to discard preconceptions and see the ancient world afresh.

• Our language classes are small (ca. 5-15 students); upper division offerings are taught by professors.
• Our language majors open many doors; graduates have gone on to law school, medical school, computer science, finance, and teaching.
• The Classical Languages major provides preparation for graduate study in Classics, History, Philosophy, and other disciplines.
• Minor in Greek or Latin—we offer the same level of advising and support.

AMPLIFY YOUR MAJOR

• Achieve a broader perspective on Classics through study abroad.
• Begin your language study with the Greek or Latin Summer Workshop (funding available).
• Challenge yourself by pursuing honors in Classics.
• Publish your work in the Berkeley Undergraduate Journal of Classics.
• Learn research techniques by assisting a professor through a URAP position.

Photo credit: Keegan Houser

Class settings are smaller, with time for questions and discussions. Students get to know one another.  

– Mackhai Nguyen, Classics Major
### Bachelor of Arts in Classical Languages

#### Greek | Latin

**SECOND YEAR**

- **EXPLORE**: Review major and college requirements. Take a Freshman Seminar with a Classics professor. Start Greek or Latin with an elementary course. Take CLASSICS 10A (Greek civilization) and CLASSICS 10B (Roman civilization).

- **CONNECT**: Get 11 mentoring from graduate students with Berkeley Connect and L&S Mentors Program. Find study groups, tutoring, and academic support at the Student Learning Center. Sign up for the Classics email list and attend department events.

- **DISCOVER**: Read the Berkeley Undergraduate Journal of Classics. Visit a professor or graduate student instructor during office hours. Discuss assignments and ask about studying the Graeco-Roman world. Visit the Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarships.

- **ENGAGE**: Visit Student Life Advising Services and sign up for EOP (if eligible). Explore and join a campus club or student organization related to your community or hobbies. Find service opportunities through the Public Service Center.

- **REFLECT**: Visit the Career Center and Career Counseling Library. Apply for a work-study position and learn about working at a university. Explore career fields in the Career Connections Networking Series.

**THIRD YEAR**

- **EXPLORE**: Start senior reading courses in Greek or Latin (numbered 101-103). Start intermediate courses (100-102) in your second language. Ask the major advisor about the Classics honors program.


- **DISCOVER**: Do a URAP archiving ancient papyri at the Center for the Tebtunis Papyri. Planning a senior thesis or project? Apply to the Haas Scholars Program or SURF. Consider submitting your work to the Berkeley Undergraduate Journal of Classics. Teach your own DeCal course. Undertake an optional honors thesis or independent study. Keep pursuing your interests through a fellowship or gap year after graduation.

- **ENGAGE**: Volunteer to represent the Department of Classics at an event. Experience life at another UC or college on a visitor and exchange program. Study and intern in Washington D.C. with UCDJC or Cal in the Capital. Hone your leadership skills with the Peter E. Haas Public Service Leaders program. Explore service opportunities after graduation, such as Peace Corps, Teach for America, or U.S. Department of State.

- **REFLECT**: Discuss graduate school options with advisors and professors. Sign up for LinkedIn profile and join the UCB Classics LinkedIn Group. Attend career and graduate school fairs. Utilize job search tools from the Career Center. Ask professors and graduate student instructors for recommendation letters. Attend Employer Info Sessions and On-Campus Recruiting. Apply to jobs, graduate school, and other opportunities.

**FOURTH YEAR**

- **EXPLORE**: Do a degree check to ensure you are on track to graduate. Complete any "bucket list" courses. Finish remaining major, college, and campus requirements. Complement your major with a certificate, course thread, or summer minor.

- **CONNECT**: Get support for your thesis project in the Townsend Honors Thesis Workshop. Become an editor of the Berkeley Undergraduate Journal of Classics. Connect with alumni groups and build your network as you prepare to graduate.

- **DISCOVER**: Teach your own DeCal course. Undertake an optional honors thesis or independent study. Keep pursuing your interests through a fellowship or gap year after graduation.

- **ENGAGE**: Volunteer to represent the Department of Classics at an event. Experience life at another UC or college on a visitor and exchange program. Study and intern in Washington D.C. with UCDJC or Cal in the Capital. Hone your leadership skills with the Peter E. Haas Public Service Leaders program. Explore service opportunities after graduation, such as Peace Corps, Teach for America, or U.S. Department of State.

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**WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?**

- **Jobs and Employers**
  - Atomic VC, General Counsel
  - Bornstein Law, Associate
  - Gracenote, Senior Manager
  - Harvard Westlake Sch., Lang. Teacher
  - Invata, Software Engineer
  - JAMA Network, Manuscript Editor
  - Jibrel, Head of Marketing
  - Kirkland and Ellis, Partner
  - Murray Hill Institute, Administrator
  - Newport Hst. Soc., Visiting Curator
  - NYC Dept. of Education, Teacher
  - Pacific Boychoir Acad., Latin Teacher
  - Salesforce, Lead Solution Engineer
  - UC Regents, Recording Secretary
  - Univ. of Illinois, Asst. Professor
  - Univ. of Oregon, Asst. Professor
  - U.S. Dept. of State, Foreign Serv. Ofcr.
  - Zocdoc, Sales Ops. and Strat. Analyst

- **Graduate Programs**
  - Anthropology, PhD Univ of Chicago
  - Classics, PhD Univ of Washington
  - Classics, PhD Columbia Univ
  - Law, JD NYU
  - PhD Candidate, UC Berkeley
  - PhD Student, UCLA

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Examples gathered from the First Destination Survey of recent Berkeley graduates and Department of Classics Alumni Records.