

Classical Studies--Interdisciplinary Minor-1

Classical Studies--Interdisciplinary Minor

Coordinators: Riccardi, Steinberg; *Faculty:* Chazelle, Haynes, Karras, Reimer, Sisko; *Special Adjunct Faculty:* Gruen

The Classical Studies program at The College of New Jersey aims to familiarize students with the rich cultural heritage of the ancient Greeks and Romans, including their languages, material culture (e.g., art history and archaeology), history (political, social, economic, and intellectual), philosophy, science, literature, and mythology, as well as the classical tradition from the Middle Ages to the present.

Requirements for the minor (5 course units)

- GRE 201 or LAT 201 or equivalent,
- One course in ancient history or philosophy from among the following:
 - HIS 301/Classical Greek Civilization
 - HIS 302/Hellenistic World
 - HIS 303/History of the Roman Republic
 - HIS 304/History of the Roman Empire
 - HIS 305/Christianity from Jesus to Charlemagne
 - HIS 308/Late Antiquity
 - HIS 311/Rome and the Barbarians in the Early Middle Ages
 - LAT 350/Roman Philosophy and Science
 - PHL 301/History of Ancient Philosophy
- One course in ancient art or literature from among the following:
 - AAH 302/The Art of Rome
 - CLS 250/Introduction to Greek Mythology
 - CLS 325/Sex and Gender in Greco-Roman Antiquity
 - CMP 230/LIT 230 Classical Traditions
 - GRE 310/Greek Tragedy
 - GRE 350/Homer's *Odyssey*
 - HON 349/Cities and Sanctuaries of Greece and Rome
 - LAT 310/The Age of Augustus
 - LAT 315/Vergil and the Impact of Empire
- Two additional courses from the lists above or any other course (including special topics or independent study) in ancient archaeology, art, history, language, literature, philosophy, or science. These courses must be approved by the program coordinators.

Language Offerings: Classical languages are approved as satisfying the liberal learning language requirement for students in the Schools of The Arts and Communication, Culture and Society, and Science.

GRE 101 and 102, though open to all students, count toward College Honors for students in the Honors Program.

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COURSES

CLS 250/Introduction to Greek Mythology

1 course unit

(every semester)

An introduction to ancient Greek mythology through primary texts in English translation such as Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey*, Aeschylus' *Agamemnon*, Sophocles' *Ajax*, etc. Focuses on the Trojan War cycle of myths and its greatest heroes in order to understand how the ancient Greeks explored important aspects of their society through literature that ostensibly presents mythological events and characters. Attention is also given to visual representations of myth in sculpture and on vases and to differentiating the ancient Greek concept of "myth" from our own.

CLS 325/Sex and Gender in Greco-Roman Antiquity

1 course unit

(occasionally)

As familiar and contemporary as many aspects of ancient Greece and Rome seem to us today, a significant difference with our own culture marks their respective attitudes toward sex and gender. Ancient constructions of sexual categories, and the social and political implications of these categories, provide both an important window onto social history and an opportunity to investigate critically the ways in which we construct these categories today. This course examines the topic of ancient sexuality both for its own sake, as historical knowledge, and as it relates to our own attitudes, values, and practices, as a sort of "dialogue" between past and present. Students will be introduced to both the literary texts and material culture that offer a window on this topic, and will study as well as interrogate current methodologies for interpreting the various categories of evidence. Topics to be covered include the concept of sex and gender as social and political constructs; myths of matriarchy and patriarchy; the legal and political status of both sexes; medical, "scientific" notions of the body; the gendering of space; and attitudes toward family and social networks. The course will also emphasize the Greeks' and Romans' different concepts of sex and gender and the ideological implications of these differences.

CLS 370/Special Topics in Classical Studies

1 course unit

(occasionally)

A 300-level course on one or more classical authors, texts, and/or topics not studied in depth in a regular course. The texts in the course are read in English translation. May be repeated for credit with permission of program coordinator.

CLS 391/Independent Study

variable course units

(occasionally)

An independent study project in the area of Classical Studies, designed and carried out in consultation with a faculty supervisor.

CLS 498/Capstone Independent Study

1 course unit

(occasionally)

An independent study project in the area of Classical Studies, resulting in a major research paper, designed and carried out in consultation with a faculty supervisor.

GRE 101/Learning Classical Greek through the New Testament I

1 course unit

(annually)

This course is the first part of a two-semester introduction to the elements of classical Greek with a particular emphasis on reading New Testament Greek. The focus of the course is the grammar and vocabulary necessary for reading *koine*, the language of the New Testament, but linguistic and cultural history both of ancient Greece and the early Christian world will also be treated.

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GRE 102/Learning Classical Greek through the New Testament II **1 course unit** (annually)

Prerequisite: GRE 101 or equivalent

A continuation of GRE 101, completing the study of grammar, syntax and vocabulary. Students will read selections from the New Testament as well as Classical authors that complement the study of the New Testament.

GRE 201/Intermediate Greek: Plato and Paul **1 course unit** (annually)

Prerequisite: GRE 102 or equivalent

Intensive review of grammar necessary for reading the New Testament. Concentration on developing translation skills through reading selections from the texts of Plato and Paul. Emphasis will be on strengthening language skills, but the course will also focus on the historical, intellectual and philosophical background of both authors.

GRE 310/Greek Tragedy **1 course unit** (occasionally)

Prerequisite: GRE 201 or equivalent

In this course students read in the original language a selected work of ancient Greek tragedy, such as Sophocles' *Oedipus Tyrannus* or Euripides' *Bacchae*. The study of philology, history and culture will provide the methodological grounding for the course as they confront both the difficulties of poetic language in ancient Greek and the cultural significance of tragic drama at the height of 5th century Athenian power and imperialism. The goal will be to challenge students' existing knowledge of grammar, but also to introduce them to elements of style and historical context in the literature of this period. Typically students will read one moderate to long play or two shorter ones. Since it is expected that this is students' first encounter with poetry in the original language, some time will need to be devoted in the first weeks to problems with syntax and style.

GRE 350/Homer's *Odyssey* **1 course unit** (occasionally)

Prerequisite: GRE 201 or equivalent

An advanced-level course in classical Greek. Students will draw on their knowledge of ancient Greek vocabulary, grammar and syntax as they read selections from Homer's *Odyssey* in the original and the entire poem in translation. They will come to read the Homeric dialect easily and experience the text with an appreciation of its imagination and artistry.

GRE 370/Special Topics in Classical Greek **1 course unit** (occasionally)

Prerequisite: GRE 201 or equivalent

A 300-level translation, analysis, and appreciation of one or more authors, texts, and/or topics not studied in depth in a regular course. May be repeated for credit with permission of program coordinator.

GRE 391/Independent Study **variable course units** (occasionally)

An independent study project involving the ancient Greek language, designed and carried out in consultation with a faculty supervisor.

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GRE 498/Capstone Independent Study

1 course unit

(occasionally)

An independent study project involving the ancient Greek language, resulting in a major research paper, designed and carried out in consultation with a faculty supervisor.

LAT 101/Introduction to Latin I

1 course unit

(annually)

The first part of a two-semester introduction to the elements of classical Latin. Its goal is to allow students to read classical Latin texts as quickly as possible. The focus of the course is the vocabulary, grammar, and syntax of classical Latin, but linguistic and cultural history will also be treated.

LAT 102/Introduction to Latin II

1 course unit

(annually)

Prerequisite: LAT 101 or equivalent

A continuation of Introduction to Latin I, completing the study of the elements of the language. Students will also read abbreviated selections from the works of great authors of the Roman period.

LAT 201/Intermediate Latin

1 course unit

(annually)

Prerequisite: LAT 102 or equivalent

Concentration on translation, appreciation, and interpretation of great authors of the Roman world.

LAT 310/The Age of Augustus

1 course unit

(occasionally)

Prerequisite: LAT 201 or equivalent

An advanced-level course in classical Latin designed to explore Augustan literature in the original language. The goal will be to challenge students' existing knowledge of grammar, but also to introduce elements of style and historical context in the literature of this period. Looks at the so-called "Golden Age of Latin Literature" from an historical perspective in order to provide an intensive examination of the cultural contexts in which the influential texts of this era were first produced. Readings will emphasize the diversity of responses among individual authors to the profound structural changes that Roman society was undergoing at this time. Particular attention will be devoted to the reorganization of society and the self through textuality, the changing dimensions of the public and the private, the roles of class and gender, and the relationship between art and pleasure. Readings will cover a wide variety of literary genres.

LAT 315/Vergil and the Impact of Empire

1 course unit

(occasionally)

Prerequisite: LAT 201 or equivalent

An advanced level language course designed to explore Vergil's poetry in the original language, and to examine through the lens of this major poet the ramifications of Augustus's gradual arrogation of sole power. The course challenges students' existing knowledge of grammar, but also introduces them to elements of style and historical context in this canonical Latin author. Students do close reading of roughly six books of the *Aeneid* in Latin (with the goal of improving each student's ability to read Latin quickly and with accuracy), and of the whole poem in English. By looking critically at the poem in its historical and literary context, the course tries to determine what suggestions Vergil is making about war, heroism, the recent civil wars and accession to

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power of Augustus, and the strengths and weaknesses of the Roman state and people, introducing students to the critical social and political changes that occurred with the rise of Augustus.

LAT 350/Roman Philosophy and Science

1 course unit

(occasionally)

Prerequisite: LAT 201 or equivalent

An advanced-level course in classical Latin. Students will draw on their knowledge of Latin grammar and syntax as they read important texts in Roman philosophy and science, and come to appreciate critically the contribution of these texts in their contemporary context as well in subsequent ages.

LAT 391/Independent Study

variable course units

(occasionally)

An independent study project involving the Latin language, designed and carried out in consultation with a faculty supervisor.

LAT 498/Capstone Independent Study

1 course unit

(occasionally)

An independent study project involving the Latin language, resulting in a major research paper, designed and carried out in consultation with a faculty supervisor.

LAT 370/Special Topics in Latin

1 course unit

(occasionally)

Prerequisite: LAT 201 or equivalent

A 300-level translation, analysis, and appreciation of one or more authors, texts, and/or topics not studied in depth in a regular course. May be repeated for credit with permission of program coordinator.

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