Classical Archaeology

The Department of Classics offers both the MA and PhD in Classical Archaeology (the archaeology of the ancient Greek and Roman worlds). All students apply to the PhD program. Those with the BA as their highest degree are admitted to the MA program, while in some instances those who hold an MA in classical archaeology or a related field are admitted directly to the PhD program. Students admitted to the MA program receive the MA upon completion of the MA requirements and then apply for advancement to the PhD program.

The Program in Classical Archaeology accepts a broad definition of the field, recognizing its grounding in both the humanities and the social sciences. It accordingly provides a rigorous general preparation in the archaeology of the ancient Greek and Roman worlds while allowing students to develop one or more specializations in a variety of specific areas. Students are required to participate in archaeological fieldwork in the Mediterranean (in many cases, participating in projects directed by UC Berkeley faculty) and are also encouraged to work with the unusually rich array of artifactual, epigraphical, and papyrological materials housed on the UC Berkeley campus. At the PhD level students opt to focus on either Greek archaeology or Roman archaeology, with their specific fieldwork, course, and ancient and modern language requirements determined by this choice.

Students who complete the PhD program should be well-qualified candidates for college and university-level teaching positions in classical archaeology and — depending upon their specific course of study — curatorial appointments in ancient art.

Admission to the University

Minimum Requirements for Admission

The following minimum requirements apply to all graduate programs and will be verified by the Graduate Division:

1. A bachelor's degree or recognized equivalent from an accredited institution;
2. A grade point average of B or better (3.0);
3. If the applicant comes from a country or political entity (e.g., Quebec) where English is not the official language, adequate proficiency in English to do graduate work, as evidenced by a TOEFL score of at least 90 on the iBT test, 570 on the paper-and-pencil test, or an IELTS Band score of at least 7 on a 9-point scale (note that individual programs may set higher levels for any of these); and
4. Sufficient undergraduate training to do graduate work in the given field.

Applicants Who Already Hold a Graduate Degree

The Graduate Council views academic degrees not as vocational training certificates, but as evidence of broad training in research methods, independent study, and articulation of learning. Therefore, applicants who already have academic graduate degrees should be able to pursue new subject matter at an advanced level without the need to enroll in a related or similar graduate program.

Programs may consider students for an additional academic master’s or professional master’s degree only if the additional degree is in a distinctly different field.

Applicants admitted to a doctoral program that requires a master’s degree to be earned at Berkeley as a prerequisite (even though the applicant already has a master’s degree from another institution in the same or a closely allied field of study) will be permitted to undertake the second master’s degree, despite the overlap in field.

The Graduate Division will admit students for a second doctoral degree only if they meet the following guidelines:

1. Applicants with doctoral degrees may be admitted for an additional doctoral degree only if that degree program is in a general area of knowledge distinctly different from the field in which they earned their original degree. For example, a physics PhD could be admitted to a doctoral degree program in music or history; however, a student with a doctoral degree in mathematics would not be permitted to add a PhD in statistics.
2. Applicants who hold the PhD degree may be admitted to a professional doctorate or professional master’s degree program if there is no duplication of training involved.

Applicants may apply only to one single degree program or one concurrent degree program per admission cycle.

Required Documents for Applications

1. Transcripts: Applicants may upload unofficial transcripts with your application for the departmental initial review. If the applicant is admitted, then official transcripts of all college-level work will be required. Official transcripts must be submitted in sealed envelopes as issued by the school(s) attended. If you have attended Berkeley, upload your unofficial transcript with your application for the departmental initial review. If you are admitted, an official transcript with evidence of degree conferred will not be required.
2. Letters of recommendation: Applicants may request online letters of recommendation through the online application system. Hard copies of recommendation letters must be sent directly to the program, not the Graduate Division.
3. Evidence of English language proficiency: All applicants from countries or political entities in which the official language is not English are required to submit official evidence of English language proficiency. This applies to applicants from Bangladesh, Burma, Nepal, India, Pakistan, Latin America, the Middle East, the People’s Republic of China, Taiwan, Japan, Korea, Southeast Asia, most European countries, and Quebec (Canada). However, applicants who, at the time of application, have already completed at least one year of full-time academic course work with grades of B or better at a US university may submit an official transcript from the US university to fulfill this requirement. The following courses will not fulfill this requirement:
   • courses in English as a Second Language,
   • courses conducted in a language other than English,
   • courses that will be completed after the application is submitted, and
   • courses of a non-academic nature.

If applicants have previously been denied admission to Berkeley on the basis of their English language proficiency, they must submit new test scores that meet the current minimum from one of the standardized tests. Official TOEFL score reports must be sent directly from Educational Test Services (ETS). The institution code for Berkeley is 4833. Official IELTS score reports must be mailed...
represents a variety of specialties and interests, and different members of the faculty, including the graduate adviser. The committee considers overall GPA, in Greek and Latin. Whether the applicant has a major in Greek or Latin, or Classical Languages or some other subject, the committee is looking for, as a minimum, language preparation more or less equivalent to what is received in the undergraduate major at Berkeley itself. This includes a full year of introductory language study, three additional semesters in central authors or texts of each language (e.g., Homer [3-4 books], Plato [a short dialogue], Greek drama [1 complete play], Vergil [3-4 books], Republican prose [40-50 pages], Horace [30 poems]) plus two additional semesters of more advanced reading in either Greek or Latin. In practice, a student with two years of study in the weaker language is usually considered marginally prepared. An applicant with an MA is expected to offer substantially stronger preparation in at least one of the two languages, since the committee will be judging such an applicant against a real or notional pool of other MA students and not against students with only a BA. Elements of additional preparation which reflect favorably on an applicant include: courses in Greek or Latin composition; especially extensive reading in one or both languages; reading knowledge of modern languages (particularly German and/or French or Italian); courses in ancient history, classical civilization, ancient and world literature in translation, philosophy, art history, archaeology, anthropology, and other disciplines that are helpful to the broad range of classical studies.

2. Academic Distinction: The committee considers overall GPA, GPA in junior and senior years, and GPA in classics courses, with emphasis on the last two and especially on the last. Successful applicants in recent years have usually offered a junior/senior GPA in the range of 3.6 to 4.0, with many above 3.8. A student who has floundered in other fields earlier in his or her undergraduate education and then performed well upon discovering classics is not necessarily at a disadvantage because of the earlier record, although the committee is duly impressed by candidates who have been able to achieve excellence in many disciplines. The department has had many students from overseas and in evaluating academic distinction makes every effort to make appropriate allowances for the differences in grading and examination systems. Successful applicants from Great Britain usually have a first class or a high second class degree.

3. Letters of Recommendation: A minimum of three letters of recommendation is required. The committee values letters that are frank and specific as to the applicant’s achievement and promise. If possible, recommenders should make comparisons with other students they know have applied to or enrolled at Berkeley. The contacts for letters of recommendation will be entered by you during the online application process. Recommenders will be contacted via email to submit their recommendation online.

4. GRE Scores: GRE scores are normally required by the Classics Department of all students receiving a BA in North America and of those overseas students whose native language is English or who have studied for one or more years at a university at which classes are conducted in English. Applicants are strongly advised to take the October GRE, since results of later exams may not arrive in time to be given due consideration in the admission and fellowship competition. There is disagreement on most committees about how important and relevant the GRE scores are, and some members do not attend to the quantitative score. GRE scores older than 5 years old will not be accepted. Code 2609 (Classical Languages) should be used to have GRE scores reported to the department by ETS.

5. Statement of Purpose: The committee appreciates clearly-written and cogent statements of purpose explaining why applicants are interested in graduate work in classics, what they hope to accomplish, and where their eventual specialization may lie. The statement of purpose is also the appropriate place for the applicant to address and explain any particular weaknesses in the dossier.

6. Writing Sample: The committee finds it helpful for candidates to submit a sample of scholarly writing, such as a paper written for a course or a portion of a senior honors thesis. (A candidate who wishes to submit an entire honors thesis should submit a summary with the application and indicate its most representative sections.) Writing samples are submitted as part of the online application. Members of committees differ in their treatment of writing samples. Some refer to them only if they judge the previous five criteria insufficiently indicative.

Curriculum
CLASSIC C204 Proseminar in Classical Archaeology and Ancient Art 2,4
CLASSIC 375 Teaching of Classics: Methods and Problems 3
Elective Courses:

| 12 units in Classical Archaeology, Art History, or Classics, courses numbered above 204 |

Elective Seminar in Ancient History, unless exam is taken in this field
Two Electives in Greek History, unless exam is taken in this field
Two Roman History Electives, unless exam is taken in this field

Classical Archaeology
Expand all course descriptions [+]
Collapse all course descriptions [-]
CLASSIC 200 Proseminar 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Fall 2016, Fall 2014
An introduction to the general literature of classical philology, to methods of research, and to textual criticism.
Proseminar: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Classics/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Proseminar: Read Less [-]

CLASSIC 201A Survey of Greek Literature 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2019, Fall 2017, Fall 2015
A sequence of readings and lectures on Greek literature.
Survey of Greek Literature: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Classics/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Survey of Greek Literature: Read Less [-]

CLASSIC 201B Survey of Greek Literature 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2018, Spring 2016, Spring 2014
A sequence of readings and lectures on Greek literature.
Survey of Greek Literature: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Classics/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Survey of Greek Literature: Read Less [-]

CLASSIC 202A Survey of Latin Literature 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Fall 2016, Fall 2014
A sequence of readings and lectures on Latin literature.
Survey of Latin Literature: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Classics/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Survey of Latin Literature: Read Less [-]

CLASSIC 202B Survey of Latin Literature 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2019, Spring 2017, Spring 2015
A sequence of readings and lectures on Latin literature.
Survey of Latin Literature: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Classics/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Survey of Latin Literature: Read Less [-]

CLASSIC 203 Approaches to Classical Literature 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2019, Fall 2017, Spring 2016
Introduction to basic methods of literary analysis and interpretation, and study of particular critical approaches of significance for the understanding of Classical literature. Close reading of selected passages of Greek and Latin will be emphasized. The critical approaches that are to be studied may vary from year to year. The course will be team taught.
Approaches to Classical Literature: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: 200 or consent of instructor

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Classics/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Approaches to Classical Literature: Read Less [-]
CLASSIC C204 Proseminar in Classical Archaeology and Ancient Art 2 or 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2019, Fall 2015, Spring 2012
This seminar is intended to introduce graduate students—both archaeologists and non-archaeologists—to the discipline of classical archaeology, history, and evolution, and its research tools and bibliography. Since it is both impossible and undesirable to attempt to cover the entire discipline in one semester, after two introductory lectures on the history of the field, we will address a selection of topics that seems representative of its concerns.

CLASSIC 211 Archaic Greek Poetry 2 or 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2017, Fall 2016, Fall 2014
Topics in iambic, elegiac, and lyric poets from Archilochus to Pindar.

CLASSIC 213 Hellenistic Poetry 2 or 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2011, Fall 2004, Fall 1999
Study of Callimachus, Theocritus, Apollonius, or other topics in Hellenistic poetry and poetics.

CLASSIC 214 Greek Drama 2 or 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2017, Fall 2015, Fall 2013
Study of Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, Aristophanes, Menander, or other topics in Greek drama and dramatic theory.
CLASSIC 218 Greek Philosophers 2 or 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2019, Spring 2019, Spring 2018
Study of PreSocratics, Plato, Aristotle, Hellenistic Philosophy, or other topics in ancient Greek philosophy through Plotinus.
Greek Philosophers: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: 200
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week
Summer: 6 weeks - 7.5 hours of seminar per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Classics/Graduate
Grading: The grading option will be decided by the instructor when the class is offered.
Greek Philosophers: Read Less [-]

CLASSIC 219 Ancient Novel 2 or 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2019, Fall 2010, Fall 2005
Study of Greek novelists, Petronius, Apuleius, or other topics in Greco-Roman romance or novel.
Ancient Novel: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: 200
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week
Summer: 6 weeks - 7.5 hours of seminar per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Classics/Graduate
Grading: The grading option will be decided by the instructor when the class is offered.
Ancient Novel: Read Less [-]

CLASSIC 220A Greek and Latin Epigraphy 2 or 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2016, Fall 2011, Spring 2008
Greek epigraphy
Greek and Latin Epigraphy: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: 200
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Classics/Graduate
Grading: The grading option will be decided by the instructor when the class is offered.
Instructor: 200A-200B.
Greek and Latin Epigraphy: Read Less [-]

CLASSIC 224 Classical Poetics and Rhetoric 2 or 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2011, Fall 1996
Ancient views of literature; theories and practice of criticism, scholarship, and education, from Homer to Byzantium.
Classical Poetics and Rhetoric: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Classics/Graduate
Grading: The grading option will be decided by the instructor when the class is offered.
Classical Poetics and Rhetoric: Read Less [-]
CLASSIC 225 Papyrology 2 or 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Spring 2016, Spring 2013
The course introduces students to Greek papyrology. Its principal aim is to develop the skills necessary to edit and interpret papyrological texts. Sessions are devoted to learning the techniques of papyrology and to investigating historical issues to which the papyrological corpus has much to contribute (the ancient economy, gender in antiquity, education, etc.). Extensive use will be made of Berkeley's outstanding collection of papyri from Tebtunis.

Rules & Requirements
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Classics/Graduate
Grading: The grading option will be decided by the instructor when the class is offered.

CLASSIC 226 Myth and Literature 2 or 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2009, Spring 2003
A study of the interplay of mythical thinking and formal literary expression in texts of all kinds in the Greco-Roman world.

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: 200
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Classics/Graduate
Grading: The grading option will be decided by the instructor when the class is offered.

CLASSIC 228 Ancient Society and Law 2 or 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2011, Fall 2009, Fall 2008
Study of social, legal, or administrative structures of the Greek or Roman world.

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: 200
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Classics/Graduate
Grading: The grading option will be decided by the instructor when the class is offered.

CLASSIC 230 Latin Poetry of the Republic and Early Empire 2 or 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2019, Spring 2017, Spring 2015
Study of Lucretius, Vergil, Horace, Ovid, or other topics in Latin poetry from Ennius to Juvenal.

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: 200
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Classics/Graduate
Grading: The grading option will be decided by the instructor when the class is offered.
CLASSIC 239 Topics in Greek or Roman Literature, History, and Culture 2 or 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2019, Spring 2019, Fall 2018
Select issues in ancient Greek and/or Roman literature or history or culture.
Topics in Greek or Roman Literature, History, and Culture: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: 200
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Classics/Graduate
Grading: The grading option will be decided by the instructor when the class is offered.
Topics in Greek or Roman Literature, History, and Culture: Read Less [-]

CLASSIC 250 Advanced Greek Composition 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2019, Spring 2018, Fall 2016
Advanced instruction in the writing of Greek prose.
Advanced Greek Composition: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Greek 40 or equivalent
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Classics/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Advanced Greek Composition: Read Less [-]

CLASSIC 260 Advanced Latin Composition 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Spring 2017, Fall 2015
Advanced instruction in the writing of Latin prose.
Advanced Latin Composition: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Latin 40 or equivalent
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Classics/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Advanced Latin Composition: Read Less [-]

CLASSIC 270 Seminar in Classical Archaeology 2 or 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2019, Fall 2018, Spring 2017
Advanced study of ancient Greek art objects and sites.
Seminar in Classical Archaeology: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Classics/Graduate
Grading: The grading option will be decided by the instructor when the class is offered.
Seminar in Classical Archaeology: Read Less [-]

CLASSIC 298 Special Study 2 - 12 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2017, Spring 2017, Fall 2016
Normally reserved for students writing the doctoral dissertation.
Special Study: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Completion of qualifying examination for the Ph.D. degree
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 0 hours of independent study per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Classics/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Special Study: Read Less [-]
CLASSIC 299 Special Study 1 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2019, Spring 2018, Fall 2017
Special individual study for qualified graduate students.
Special Study: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-4 hours of independent study per week
Summer: 8 weeks - 1.5-7.5 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Classics/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.

CLASSIC 302 Teaching Practicum 3 - 6 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2019, Spring 2019, Fall 2018
Supervised teaching of lower division Greek, Latin, or Classics or of discussion sections in Classics. Two semesters normally required for Ph.D. candidates.
Teaching Practicum: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Graduate standing
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-6 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Classics/Professional course for teachers or prospective teachers
Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

Teaching of Classics: Methods and Problems:
Formerly known as: Classics 300
Teaching of Classics: Methods and Problems: Read Less [-]

CLASSIC 375 Teaching of Classics: Methods and Problems 3 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2017
Seminar in problems of teaching. Required for all new graduate student instructors.
Teaching of Classics: Methods and Problems: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Graduate standing or GSI status
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 0 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Classics/Professional course for teachers or prospective teachers
Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

CLASSIC 601 Individual Study for Master's Candidates 1 - 12 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2017, Spring 2017, Fall 2014
Individual study for the comprehensive or language requirements in consultation with the graduate adviser or personal adviser. Units may not be used to meet either unit or residence requirements for a master’s degree.
Individual Study for Master's Candidates: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 0 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Classics/Graduate examination preparation
Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

Individual Study for Master's Candidates: Read Less [-]
CLASSIC 602 Individual Study for Doctoral Candidates 1 - 12 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2019, Spring 2018, Fall 2017
Individual study in consultation with the graduate adviser or personal adviser, intended to provide an opportunity for qualified students to prepare themselves for the various examinations required of candidates for the Ph.D. May not be used for unit or residence requirements for the doctoral degree.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 0 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Classics/Graduate examination preparation

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

Individual Study for Doctoral Candidates: Read Less [-]