CLASSICS - MASTER OF ARTS (MA)

Candidates may choose to emphasize in Greek or Latin, classical art and archaeology, classical antiquity or the teaching of Latin (MAT).

It is expected that students opting for the teaching of Latin either have achieved accreditation at the secondary level or are planning to do so through the School of Education. The MA degree alone does not satisfy the state requirements for certification.

For more information, visit the department’s Graduate Degrees in Classics webpage.

Concurrent Degree Program

BA/MA in Classics

The five-year BA/MA concurrent degree program in classics is designed for students who enter the University of Colorado ready to take courses in Latin or Greek at the 3000-level or above, and who wish to prepare themselves for application to competitive PhD programs in classics. Students without adequate preparation in at least one language would find it difficult to complete two degrees in five years, since proficiency in the languages comes largely from practice and experience. Students will normally need to study both Latin and Greek in order to meet their course requirements within five years; course offerings in just one language will normally not be sufficient. The five-year degree combines the BA in Greek and/or Latin (Track I), Plan II (no thesis). Students with strong research interests may be able to complete the BA with honors or the MA with concentration in Greek or Latin, Plan I (with thesis). Graduates of the BA/MA program who have completed their work in excellent fashion will be well prepared to apply for PhD programs in classics. Students who enter CU with an already strong knowledge of Latin or Greek may be eligible to pursue a five-year concurrent bachelor’s/master’s degree (BA/MA).

Here is a guide to the concurrent degree program; for more information, contact the associate chair for undergraduate studies.

Requirements

Degree Emphases

Latin or Greek Emphasis

Candidates are required to complete at least six graduate-level courses (18 credit hours) in Greek and/or Latin, and to pass a three-hour written examination in translation and analysis of the major language. Students intending to pursue the PhD in classics are strongly advised to develop proficiency in both Latin and Greek, and to acquire a reading knowledge of German and at least one other modern foreign language (normally French or Italian).

Teaching of Latin Emphasis

Candidates are required to complete at least four graduate-level courses (12 credit hours) in Latin, one Latin workshop (3 credit hours), one course in Roman history (3 credit hours), and a special teaching project (3 credit hours) and must pass a three-hour written examination in Latin translation and a one-hour oral comprehensive examination on teaching methods and their own Latin teaching project. Plan I is not offered for the MA degree with emphasis on teaching.

Classical Art and Archaeology Emphasis

Candidates are required to complete at least two graduate-level courses (6 credit hours) in Greek and/or Latin and five graduate-level courses (15 credit hours) in ancient and/or medieval art and archaeology. In addition, they must pass written examinations on Greek and Roman art and archaeology. Students intending to pursue the PhD in classical archaeology are strongly recommended to develop proficiency in both Latin and Greek and to acquire a reading knowledge of German and at least one other modern foreign language (normally French or Italian). With the approval of the associate chair for graduate studies, classical archaeology or history.

Classical Antiquity Emphasis

Candidates are required to complete at least two graduate-level courses (6 credit hours) in Greek and/or Latin, two graduate-level courses (6 credit hours) in ancient history and/or classical archaeology and must pass a written examination in two of the following fields: history, art and archaeology, religion and mythology, philosophy and political theory and Greek or Latin translation.

Degree Plans

Plan I: Thesis Option

Candidates for the MA plan I (24–27 credit hours of course work at the 5000 level or above, plus 3–6 credit hours of thesis) take a one-hour oral comprehensive examination in defense of the thesis.

Plan II: Comprehensive Examination Option

Candidates for the MA plan II (30 credit hours at the 5000 level or above, without a thesis) must have departmental approval and pass a one-hour oral comprehensive examination covering their course work and reading lists for their exams.