

# ANCIENT STUDIES

## Overview and Contact Information

The major in ancient studies encourages the study of ancient Greek and Roman civilizations from an interdisciplinary and inclusive perspective. Currently, majors may choose from among three concentrations: a) art historical/archaeological, b) historical, c) literary/mythological. On consultation with their advisors, students may select courses from among those offered in classics, art history, history, philosophy, politics, and religion. Through this major students will attain a deeper and more sophisticated knowledge of the ancient world.

## See Also

- Classics (<http://catalog.mtholyoke.edu/areas-study/classics/>)
- Greek (<http://catalog.mtholyoke.edu/areas-study/greek/>)
- Latin (<http://catalog.mtholyoke.edu/areas-study/latin/>)

## Contact Information

**Ombretta Frau, Chair**

**Geoffrey Sumi, Professor of Classics**

**Denise Falk, Academic Department Coordinator**

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<https://www.mtholyoke.edu/academics/find-your-program/ancient-studies> (<https://www.mtholyoke.edu/academics/find-your-program/ancient-studies/>)

## Learning Goals

Learning goals for students of classics and ancient studies are:

- To analyze critically ancient Greek and Roman texts, in their original languages and in translation, within their literary, philosophical, and historical contexts.
- To understand major monuments and artifacts within their historical and cultural settings; to develop a visual literacy of ancient art and sharpen the ability to see and express what one sees.
- To imagine fully and creatively ancient cultural communities when relying on limited written and material remains.
- To deepen the understanding of current problems by studying the responses of ancient Greeks and Romans to questions about the human condition, including, how to live well, and how to govern.
- To write and speak more confidently and effectively, and to develop well-reasoned arguments using primary evidence and/or secondary material, including print and digital resources.
- To expand intellectual breadth through studying the ancient Greek and Roman worlds through different disciplines and modes of inquiry.

## Faculty

**This area of study is administered by the Department of Classics and Italian. Advisors in Ancient Studies:**

Paula Debnar, Professor of Classics on the Alumnae Foundation, Teaching Spring Only

Geoffrey Sumi, Professor of Classics, Teaching Fall Only

Bruce Arnold, Associate Professor of Classics

Catherine Baker, Visiting Lecturer in Classics

## Requirements for the Major

A minimum of 32 credits:

Code	Title	Credits
At least one 4 credit course at or above the level of GREEK-102 or LATIN-102		4
At least one 4 credit art historical or archaeological course focusing on the ancient Mediterranean		4
At least one 4 credit literary or mythical course focusing on the ancient Mediterranean or India		4
At least two 4 credit historical courses:		8
One course on the ancient Greek world		
One course on the ancient Roman world		
At least two 4 credit 300-level courses:		8
One of which is a designated capstone/research seminar		
One of which is in the chosen concentration		
One additional 4 credit course at the 200 level or above		4
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>32</b>

## Additional Specifications

- At least three (4 credit) courses (12 credits total) must be within the chosen concentration
- Students intending to pursue graduate studies are encouraged to minor in a related area (e.g., art history, classics, history, one of the ancient languages, philosophy, or religion)

## Requirements for the Minor

A minimum of 20 credits:

Code	Title	Credits
Two 4 credit courses, each from different areas of concentration		8
At least one 4 credit course at the 300 level		4
8 credits from relevant 4 credit courses in art history, classics, history, Asian studies, philosophy, religion, or politics		8
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>20</b>

## Related Courses

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Art History</b>		
ARTH-290RA	Issues in Art History: 'Roman Art and Archaeology'	4
ARTH-290VA	Issues in Art History: 'Ancient Greek Vases and Vase Painting'	4
<b>Classics</b>		
CLASS-205	Cleopatra: The Not Humble Woman	4
CLASS-211	Gods and Mortals: Ancient Greek and Roman Myth	4
CLASS-212	Greek Tragedy, American Drama, and Film	4
CLASS-226	Bread and Circuses: The Politics of Public Entertainment in Ancient Rome	4
CLASS-227	Ancient Greece	4
CLASS-228	Ancient Rome	4

CLASS-229	The Tyrant and Gladiator: Bad Roman Emperors from Caligula to Commodus	4
CLASS-239HE	Topics in Classics: 'The Hellenistic World from Alexander to Cleopatra'	4
CLASS-239RA	Topics in Classics: 'Roman Art and Archaeology'	4
CLASS-239VA	Topics in Classics: 'Ancient Greek Vases and Vase Painting'	4
CLASS-242	Sicily: Crossroads of the Mediterranean	4
CLASS-253	The Spartans: Myth and History	4
CLASS-260	Knowing God	4
CLASS-262	Kingdoms Human and Divine	4
CLASS-295	Independent Study	1-4
CLASS-395	Independent Study	1-8
<b>Greek</b>		
GREEK-101	Elementary Greek: Homer's <i>Iliad</i>	4
GREEK-102	Elementary Greek: Homer's <i>Iliad</i>	4
GREEK-250	Intermediate Greek Tutorial	2-4
GREEK-350	Advanced Greek Tutorial	2-4
<b>History</b>		
HIST-226	Bread and Circuses: The Politics of Public Entertainment in Ancient Rome	4
HIST-227	Ancient Greece	4
HIST-228	Ancient Rome	4
HIST-229	The Tyrant and the Gladiator: Bad Roman Emperors from Caligula to Commodus	4
HIST-253HE	Topics in History: 'The Hellenistic World from Alexander to Cleopatra'	4
HIST-253SP	Topics in History: 'The Spartans: Myth and History'	4
<b>Latin</b>		
LATIN-101	Elementary Latin I	4
LATIN-102	Elementary Latin II	4
LATIN-201	Intermediate Latin I	4
LATIN-202	Cicero and the Enemies of the Roman Republic	4
LATIN-209	Vergil: <i>Aeneid</i>	4
LATIN-213	Myth, Memory, and History: Writing the Past in the Roman Republic	4
LATIN-302	Cicero and the Enemies of the Roman Republic	4
LATIN-307	The Slender Muse	4
LATIN-309	Vergil: <i>Aeneid</i>	4
LATIN-310	Ovid: <i>Metamorphoses</i>	4
LATIN-313	Myth, Memory, and History: Writing the Past in the Roman Republic	4
<b>Philosophy</b>		
PHIL-201	Philosophical Foundations of Western Thought: The Greek Period	4
<b>Religion</b>		
RELIG-225KG	Topics in Religion: 'Knowing God'	4
RELIG-225KH	Topics in Religion: 'Kingdoms Human and Divine'	4