

Classical Studies

The classical studies major provides a broad liberal arts education and the cultivation of intellectual skills in several disciplines; it is appropriate for students preparing for work in such areas as business, government, education, and commerce, or for graduate study in the professions. The program is part of the interdisciplinary, intercollegiate Classics program taught by faculty from Pomona, Scripps, Pitzer, and Claremont McKenna Colleges. The intercollegiate Classics program offers courses in different tracks, including introductory and advanced courses in the classical languages; courses in classical literature in English translation; yet others deal with numerous aspects of classical civilization (in ancient Greece and Rome from the Homeric age to the early Middle Ages).

The classical studies major at CMC is suitable for students interested in the achievements of classical civilization both for their own value and for their importance as roots of modern civilization. Each major must select a CMC faculty member of the Advisory Committee as advisor and plan a program of courses for the major. In consultation with their major advisor, students may select off-campus courses in classics at the other Claremont Colleges for the major, provided they complete at least four courses (three for dual majors) at CMC.

Major Requirements

The major in classical studies requires **ten courses**, including reading knowledge (through 4th college semester) in either classical Greek or Latin, distributed as indicated below. At least four of the ten courses must be taken at CMC.

1. Core courses (four courses):

One course in each of the following four disciplines:

- *Government*
- *History*
- *Literature*, and
- *Philosophy or Religious Studies*.

Students select courses for the core requirement in consultation with a CMC major advisor. Each semester a number of off-campus courses may be selected; a list of CMC courses approved as core courses may be found below.

2. Language Study (one to four courses):

Majors must complete at least the equivalent of *four college-level courses in classical Greek or Latin*.

Students who have studied a classical language in high school and are placed in a second or third semester Greek or Latin language course take more elective courses for the major.

3. Capstone course (one course):

All majors must complete a capstone course at CMC. Each year the Advisory Committee will designate the course or courses that may be used to meet this requirement.

4. Electives (one to four courses):

In consultation with their major advisor, students select elective courses as appropriate to complete their major. The number of elective courses required can vary depending upon the number of language courses students have to complete.

Senior Thesis in Classical Studies

The senior thesis is a general education requirement and the capstone experience of a student's undergraduate education. Students must complete a senior thesis in at least one of their majors under supervision of a faculty reader who teaches within that major, unless granted a special exception.

Students interested in a two-semester thesis project complete a one-half credit or full credit thesis research course in the

first semester and the senior thesis in the second semester. The senior thesis and the thesis research course may not be counted as courses in the major.

Special Option for Majors

Dual Majors

Students with a dual major including classical studies must complete at least eight courses, including proficiency (through third college semester) in either classical Greek or Latin, distributed as indicated below. At least three of the eight courses must be taken at CMC.

1. Core courses (four courses):

One course in each of the following four disciplines:

- *Government*
- *History*
- *Literature, and*
- *Philosophy or Religious Studies.*

Students select courses for the core requirement in consultation with a CMC major advisor. Each semester a number of off-campus courses may be selected; a list of CMC courses approved as core courses may be found below.

2. Language Study (one to three courses):

Majors must complete at least the equivalent of three college-level courses in classical Greek or Latin. Students who have studied a classical language in high school and are placed in a second or third semester Greek or Latin language course take more elective courses for the major.

3. Capstone course (one course):

All majors must complete a capstone course at CMC. Each year the Advisory Committee will designate the course or courses that may be used to meet this requirement.

4. Electives (up to two courses):

In consultation with their major advisor, students select elective courses to complete their major. The

number of elective courses required can vary depending upon the number of language courses students have to complete.

Students with a dual major including classical studies are encouraged to write their *senior thesis* on a topic in classical studies. For further information, see “Senior Thesis in Classical Studies” above.

Honors in Classical Studies

Students interested in receiving honors in Classical Studies are encouraged to contact the faculty chair at the beginning of the senior year. To be eligible for honors, students must have a 10.50 average for all courses taken in the major, and complete a one- or two-semester thesis in Classical studies, with a CMC faculty member as first or second reader (see “Senior Thesis in Classical Studies” above), and receive grades of “B+” (10.00) or better for the thesis course(s).

Students with a *dual major* including Classical studies who wish to be considered for *honors* in Classical studies are eligible if they:

- have completed all requirements for a *full major* in Classical studies and are granted honors, or
- qualify and receive honors in *both disciplines* of their dual major. See “Academic Honors at Graduation” for details.

General Education Requirements for Classical Studies Majors

Students with interdisciplinary majors requiring courses in the *humanities* and/or *social sciences* are required to take designated courses in six different fields of the humanities and social sciences for the general education requirements. Classical studies majors usually take courses in three of the four fields of the humanities (literature, philosophy, religious studies and literature in a foreign language), and in three of the four fields of the social sciences (economics, government, history, and psychol-

ogy). Classical studies majors with a dual or double major in a second field of the humanities or social sciences will usually be required to take an additional course. For further information, see “Academic Policies and Procedures.”

Classical studies majors may use the third college-level course in a classical language for the general education requirement in foreign language.

Study Abroad

All Classical studies majors are strongly encouraged to study abroad for a semester or a year in a country related to their major. Normally not more than two courses taken during a semester abroad may be counted towards the major.

Major in Classical Languages

Students who wish to pursue graduate study in Classics should consider the off-campus Classical Languages and Literatures major available through Pomona College, Scripps College, and Pitzer College.

The Faculty

The CMC major is administered by the CMC Classical Studies Advisory Committee, in cooperation with faculty of Pitzer College, Pomona College, and Scripps College.

Claremont McKenna College: Bjornlie, Gilbert, Nichols (chair), and Obdrzalek.

Pitzer College: Glass.

Pomona College: C. Chinn, and McKirahan.

Scripps College: Finkelppearl, and Roselli.

Courses

CORE COURSES

The following courses at CMC may be used for the Core courses:

• Government

- 161. The Natural Law
- 164. Political Rhetoric
- 172. Political Philosophy and Foreign Policy

• History

- 103a. From Village to Empire: The History of the Roman Republic, 750-44 BCE
- 103b. Governing Rome: The History of the Roman Empire, 44 BCE – 565 CE
- 104. Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages
- 108. The Age of Cicero: Politics, Philosophy and Culture at the End of the Roman Republic

• Literature

- 61. The Bible
- 98. News from the Delphic Oracle: Ancient Greek Literature and Culture
- 108. Early Women Writers: Medieval
- 109. The Bible in Medieval Art and Literature
- 113. Homer and Virgil

• Philosophy

- 100A. Classical Philosophy
- 101B. Classical Ethical Theory: Plato
- 101C. Classical Ethical Theory: Aristotle
- 101D. Classical Ethical Theory: Stoics, Sceptics, and Epicureans

• Religious Studies

- 120. The Life of Jesus
- 121. Pauline Tradition
- 122. Biblical Interpretation
- 129. Formative Judaism
- 131. Synagogue and Church

ELECTIVE COURSES

Students select elective courses in consultation with their advisor. Electives may be taken at CMC or the other Claremont Colleges.