

Classical Studies

Learning to work with material culture and archaeological evidence—from large scale monumental remains to papyri—is a mainstay of our program, both in the classroom and during off-campus trips to Greece and Italy.

Classical studies is an interdisciplinary major at heart, and takes advantage of the methods and insights of language and linguistics, literary studies, archaeology, art, anthropology, history, philosophy, economics, and religion.

The curriculum emphasizes an integrated approach to the ancient Mediterranean and its influence on the world around us. Students examine a particular text or topic from a variety of perspectives in order to develop a multifaceted understanding of Greek and Roman culture.

BENEFITS OF ONE COURSE AT A TIME

One Course At A Time allows for immersion, which is the best way to learn a language. Rather than just a weekly language lab, with One Course we turn the classroom itself into a language lab mixing discussion, instruction, workshoping, and working through drills and exercises. And students work together as a class with the professor.

Students in Latin 205 spend an entire block immersed in the world of Roman theatre by examining, translating, and staging a Roman play for campus. The One Course calendar gives them the opportunity to dig into the text and meaning of the play and update a classical production for a modern audience.

Every other year the Classics Department offers block-long, off-campus courses in Greece or Italy, and classical studies majors have studied Latin in Rome and participated in archaeological excavations around the world.

CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS

TECHNOLOGY

The classics faculty collaborates with the library and the Center for Teaching and Learning to introduce students to the range of resources available for studying the ancient world in the new millennium (Perseus, Papyri.info, and a host of other databases), and, more importantly, how to use these resources effectively to achieve individual research goals.

RECEPTION OF ANTIQUITY

Classical literature was used and reused in the classical past and continues to be used in the present. Societal reception of classical works is a theme that runs throughout our curriculum, sometimes as a subtheme (such as Introduction to Classical Myth or Love and Sexuality) and sometimes as the focus of an entire course (such as Big Screen Rome, Classics and the Graphic Novel, and Epic Tradition: Classical and Modern Odysseys). Reception of antiquity is becoming a “hot” subfield, and our students are learning about ancient topics through the most contemporary conversations regarding them.

CLASSICS AND NEAR EAST

Greece and Rome are studied as part of the larger ancient Mediterranean world. The near east has a strong place in our curriculum, whether in Greek and Roman history surveys where we delve deeper into life in the Roman provinces

Faculty Bios & Courses

JOHN GRUBER-MILLER *Professor of Classics*

Teaches courses in classics, Greek, and Latin and is the advisor for Cornell's interdisciplinary classical studies program. He is the editor of “When Dead Tongues Speak: Teaching Beginning Greek and Latin” (Oxford University Press, 2006). He also serves as editor of Teaching Classical Languages, a peer-reviewed journal dedicated to Latin and Greek pedagogy; and maintains two educational sites: Ariadne: Resources for Athenaze and Let's Review Greek! He received the Award for Excellence in the Teaching of Classics at the College Level from the American Philological Association. Ph.D. and M.A., The Ohio State University; B.A., Xavier University.

PHILIP VENTICINQUE *Assistant Professor of Classics*

Focuses on the social and economic history of the Greek and Roman worlds. He teaches Greek and Roman History, Egypt After the Pyramids, Egypt in the Imagination, and courses in Greek and Latin language and literature. He was awarded fellowships from the American Council of Learned Societies, Harvard's Center for Hellenic Studies, and the Loeb Classical Library Foundation to support the research and writing of a book. Venticinque's research has been published in Historia, Greek, Roman, and Byzantine Studies, and The Bulletin of the American Society of Papyrologists. Ph.D., M.A., and B.A., University of Chicago.

cont. >

and on the periphery of the Greek world, or in stand-alone courses such as Classical Crossroads: Egypt, Greece, and Persia or Egypt after the Pyramids: Roman and Byzantine Egypt.

TEXT AND MATERIAL CONTEXTS

Most classical studies programs focus primarily on the reading of Greek and Latin literary texts, which we do as well, and we also seek to push the boundaries of the discipline by working with archaeological evidence. Learning to work with material culture and archaeological evidence—from large scale monumental remains to papyri—is a mainstay of our program, both in the classroom and during off-campus trips. We integrate the study of papyrological documents into courses to give students experience working with evidence of daily social, economic, political, and religious life in the ancient world.

STUDENT RESEARCH

Student research takes many shapes, from traditional research papers to the development of online web pages for Greek gods. The program encourages seniors to develop research projects in an area of interest and present them at the Cornell College Student Symposium. A strong tradition of collaborative student-faculty research exists in the classics program.

INTERNSHIPS/FELLOWSHIPS

Students have recently held internships or fellowships at the following locations:

- Global Zero, Washington, D.C.
- Center for Hellenic Studies/Sunoikisis Archaeological Field School, Kenchreai, Greece
- Persepolis Fortification Project, Chicago
- Alliance Francaise, Milwaukee
- Office of the State Archaeologist, Iowa City, Iowa
- The African American Museum of Iowa, Cedar Rapids, Iowa
- World Trade Press, Petaluma, California

AFTER CORNELL

GRADUATE SCHOOLS ATTENDED

M. A., international relations, Oxford University, Cambridge, U.K. (Class of 2014)

M.A., art history, University of St. Thomas, St. Paul (Class of 2014)

M.A., maritime archaeology, University of Southampton, England (Class of 2013)

M.A., history, Midwestern State University, Wichita Falls, Texas (Class of 2012)

M.A., art history and archaeology, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana; pursuing Ph.D., University of Chicago. (Class of 2012)

M.A., classics, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland (Class of 2011)

M.S., library science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (Class of 2010)

M.A., humanities, University of Chicago (Class of 2010)

M.A., history, University of Oregon (Class of 2007)

M.L.S., University of Denver (Class of 2007)

Ph.D., ancient history, the University of Washington, Seattle (Class of 1997)

ALUMNI CAREERS

Natural resources specialist, the State of Alaska, Anchorage (Class of 2014)

Software quality assurance, Epic Systems, Denver (Class of 2014)

Associate editor, Avalon Travel - Perseus Books Group, Chicago (Class of 2013)

Web content creator, CreatiVagabond Media Labs, Arlington, Texas (Class of 2013)

Marketing director, Mind Over Matter Studio Method, Chesterton, Indiana (Class of 2013)

Teacher, San Francisco Unified School District, Fairfax, California (Class of 2012)

Popular services librarian, Schaumburg Township District Library, Lake Zurich, Illinois (Class of 2010)

Electronic resources manager, Anderson Academic Commons, University of Denver (Class of 2007)

ESL teacher, EF Education First Teachers, Israel (Class of 2007)

Research librarian, Legislative Research Unit of the Illinois General Assembly, Springfield, Illinois (Class of 2006)

Information management officer, U.S. Government, Washington, D.C. (Class of 2004)

Senior archaeologist, William Self Associates, Tucson, Arizona (Class of 2003)

ESL teacher, ME English Teaching Centre, Shau Kei Wan, Hong Kong (Class of 2003)

GENEVIEVE MIGELY

Associate Professor of Philosophy

Does work in the history of ancient and early modern philosophy and the philosophy of law. Her courses include Ancient Philosophy and Philosophy of Law. Ph.D. and M.A., Claremont Graduate University; B.A., Northwestern University.

JOSEPH MOLLEUR

Associate Professor of Religion

Teaches the classical studies courses Jesus in the Gospels, Epistles of Paul, and Christian Foundations. Ph.D., Boston College; M.A., Episcopal Divinity School; B.A., Grinnell College.

CHRISTINA MORRIS PENN-GOETSCH

Professor of Art History

Teaches the classical studies courses Roman and Etruscan Art and City of Rome (taught in Italy). Ph.D. and M.A., University of Iowa; B.A., University of Virginia.