

DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS
McMASTER UNIVERSITY
2019-2020
GRADUATE HANDBOOK



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From the Graduate Chair

On behalf of the Department of Classics at McMaster University, I am pleased to welcome prospective, incoming, and returning graduate students. The Graduate Handbook outlines practices and procedures in the department and I hope that it will be useful to you to learn about the programs and to succeed as a student.

The Department of Classics is one of the oldest in Canada and one of only a handful to offer both an M.A. and a Ph.D. We are proud to offer programs of study that include literature, history, and archaeology. We prioritize the creation of well-rounded graduate students whose knowledge of classical civilization grows in tandem with their abilities in research, critical thinking, writing, and oral presentation. Our students enjoy opportunities to gain hands-on experience at archaeological excavations and to pursue research projects in the Mediterranean.

McMaster graduates hold or have held tenured or tenure-track positions at Acadia, Brock, Calgary, Concordia, Laurentian, McMaster, and Trent in Canada, and abroad at Leeds (UK), Penn State (US), and Auckland (New Zealand). Recent graduates of our MA have entered graduate programs at Canadian universities (e.g., Toronto, UBC), as well as at many US institutions (e.g., Stanford, Duke, Michigan, UNC Chapel Hill, Minnesota, Cincinnati, Emory, Princeton) and at universities in the United Kingdom (Oxford, Cambridge).

Sincerely,

Kathryn Mattison

Sessional Dates 2019-2020

DEADLINE DATES FOR GRADUATE PROGRAMS	FALL TERM	WINTER TERM	SUMMER TERM
	Sept.- Dec., 2019 Sept. - Oct., 2019 (1HF) Nov. - Dec., 2019 (2HF)	Jan. - April, 2020 Jan. - Feb., 2020 (1HF) March - April, 2020 (2HF)	May - August, 2020
On-Time Registration	Tuesday, July 23 to Tuesday, August 27	Thursday, November 28 to Thursday, December 12	Thursday, April 2 to Thursday, April 16
Class Start Dates *	Classes begin on or after September 3, 2019 - check with program for details	Classes begin on or after January 2, 2020 - check with program for details	Class start dates vary - check with program for details
Late Registration	Wednesday August 28 to Monday, September 9	Friday, December 13 to Thursday, January 2	Friday, April 17to Tuesday, April 28
Final Dates to Add Courses:			
6 Unit Courses	Friday, September 27		
3 Unit Courses or 1.5 Unit Courses (1HF)	Friday, September 27	Friday, January 24	Friday, May 15
1.5 Unit Courses (2HF)	Friday, October 25	Friday, February 28 th	Friday, June 26
Final Dates to Drop Courses: **			
6 Unit Courses	Friday, January 3	Friday, May 1	
3 Unit Courses	Friday, October 4	Friday, February 7	Friday, June 5
1.5 Unit Courses (1HF)	Friday, September 27	Friday, January 24	Friday, June 5
1.5 Unit Courses (2HF)	Friday, November 1	Friday, March 6	Friday, July 10
Final Dates to Submit Grades:			
6 Unit Courses		Friday, May 1	Friday, August 21
3 Unit Courses	Thursday, January 2	Friday, May 1	Friday, August 21
1.5 Unit Courses (1HF)	Friday, October 25	Friday, February 28 th	Friday, August 21
1.5 Unit Courses (2HF)	Thursday, January 2	Friday, May 1	Friday, August 21
Final Date to Submit Results of Incomplete (INC) Grades for Previous	Friday, March 6	Friday, July 10	Friday, November 6

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Term with Permission of Associate Dean			
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Thesis

	FALL 2019	SPRING 2020	FALL 2020
Final Date to Initiate Thesis Defence in Mosaic***	Friday, June 28th	Wednesday January 22nd <i>(Health Sci.)</i> Wednesday February 5th <i>(All others)</i>	Friday, June 26th
Final Date to Submit Master's Theses to Departments (Prior to Defense)	Friday, August 9	Friday, March 6	Friday, August 7
Final Date to File Theses with Graduate Studies and Complete Degree Requirements****			
- Faculty of Health Sciences	Friday, September 27th	Friday, April 3rd	Monday, September 28th
- All Other Faculties	Friday, September 27th	Friday, April 24	Monday, September 28th

The University welcomes and includes students, staff, and faculty from a wide range of cultural, traditional, and spiritual beliefs. As per the Policy on Academic Accommodation for Religious, Indigenous and Spiritual Observances, the University will arrange reasonable accommodation of the needs of students who observe religious holy days other than those already accommodated by ordinary scheduling and statutory holidays. For more information, please refer to <https://www.mcmaster.ca/policy/Students-AcademicStudies/AcademicAccommodation-Observances.pdf>

Graduate students may only enroll in undergraduate courses with the approval of their supervisor or graduate program. Students are responsible for meeting the deadlines and requirements of the undergraduate course as presented in class and in the undergraduate calendar. Graduate students will be graded under the graduate grading scale.

Programs may establish earlier deadlines to add/drop courses but these dates must clearly be communicated to students. Please note that the last date to cancel a course or registration with no academic penalty is not the same as the last date to be eligible for a refund.

*The precise dates of commencement of courses are determined by the program; students are urged to contact their program for details. SGS maintains the 13-week graduate instruction period; however, if a course does not fall into the traditional 13-week period, the graduate program will inform students of important dates and deadlines in the course syllabus. There is no official fall break or reading week for graduate students (except MBA). Students should check with their program and their course instructor(s) as to whether classes will be held during these periods. Please see sections 1.3 (Responsibilities of Graduate Students to the University) and 2.5.6 (Vacations) of the calendar for more information.

**All courses on a student's record after these dates will require a grade. Exceptions require submission of a Petition for Special Consideration. Graduate programs may establish earlier deadlines for completion of course work and may prescribe penalties for late completion of work and for failure to complete work, provided that these penalties are announced at the time the instructor makes known to the class the methods by which student performance shall be evaluated.

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***Please note the following black-out periods in which Ph.D. defences cannot be scheduled: December 16th to January 10th inclusive and August 17th to 21st inclusive.

****A final thesis is the corrected, approved version of the thesis which is submitted to SGS following the Final Oral Examination. Note there is no grace period at the end of December or April for final thesis submission and completion of degree requirements.

Important Dates

On-Time Registration on Mosaic	Tuesday, July 23 to Tuesday, August 27
Chair & Graduate Advisor Meeting with graduate students	Wednesday, 4 September at 2:30pm
Fall Semester Begins	Tuesday, 3 September
Modern Language Comprehension Exams	Friday, 6 September at 1:30 pm
SSHRC PhD application deadline	TBA
Midterm Recess	October 14-20
SSHRC CGS-M (M.A.) application deadline	TBA
Final Examinations	December 6-19
Winter Semester Begins	Monday, 6 January
Midterm Recess	February 17-23
Final Examinations	April 13-28

Program Information

The Department of Classics offers one M.A. program and one Ph.D. program. The M.A. in Classics is for those who wish to specialize in the general areas of Philology, History, and Classical Art and Archaeology. Students have the option of upgrading their archaeological or philological expertise by taking extra undergraduate courses. The Ph.D. program requires a sound knowledge of Latin and Greek, and all doctoral students are required to take courses in Greek and Latin and to complete comprehensive exams in both languages, as well as in other subject areas.

In addition to the application required by the School of Graduate Studies, applicants are asked to send a writing sample of 5-10 pages along with their application (please do not send these as attachments).

Each applicant will automatically be considered for financial support from McMaster, including TAships. All applicants, however, are urged to apply on their own for both an OGS (Ontario Graduate Scholarship) and for funding from SSHRC (Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada). OGS awards can be held only at Ontario universities, but out-of-province students are eligible and should apply. SSHRC awards can be held across the country. Note that the application deadlines for both are considerably earlier than the deadline for admission to most graduate programs; please read the scholarship websites carefully and be sure to apply in time.

M.A. Degree in Classics

The Department of Classics offers M.A. programs with a concentration in Philology, History, or Art and Archaeology. Candidates must comply with the general regulations of the School of Graduate Studies and the specific regulations listed below.

Admission to the Program:

Applicants for the M.A. Program in Classics may be admitted as Regular Students if they are graduates with at least B+ standing of any Honours program taken at McMaster or other university, which includes:

1. At least 12 units of either Ancient Greek or Latin and at least 6 units of the other language with an average of at least B in each language.
2. At least 36 additional units of Classical Civilization, Greek, Latin, Ancient History, or other courses approved by the Department of Classics, at least 12 of these units to be in upper-level courses.

Graduates without sufficient specialization may be admitted with the requirement that they complete extra prerequisite courses with a grade of at least B+.

Candidates will not be allowed to take a graduate course in a language or area in which the Department feels they do not have sufficient background.

Program Requirements:

The general requirements for the M.A. degree appear in the "M.A. Program Description" section of the departmental website. With the approval of the Department of Classics, candidates may take the degree either with or without thesis. A grade of at least B- is required in all courses.

Requirements for the M.A. degree with thesis are:

1. Ten half courses (one-term courses) offered by the Department, of which no more than four may be at the undergraduate level, and of which at least four, two in each year, must be graduate or undergraduate Latin or Greek (permission of the Graduate Adviser is required to take a course at undergraduate level). Students must pass at least one language class at the graduate level in each ancient language. Six courses are completed in the first year of study and four additional courses are taken in year two. Courses will be selected in consultation with the graduate advisor. A grade of at least B is required in all courses. Upon entry into the program all students will take diagnostic exams in Ancient Greek and Latin to determine appropriate language level placement.
2. A comprehension test in French or German or Italian; exemption from this test may be granted to candidates who have completed an equivalent test at this or other universities.
3. A satisfactory thesis of approximately 80 pages on an approved topic.
4. An oral examination to defend the thesis.

Requirements for the M.A. degree without thesis are:

1. Six half courses offered by the Department, of which no more than two may be at the undergraduate level, and of which at least two must be graduate or undergraduate Latin or Greek (permission of the Graduate Adviser is required to take a course at undergraduate level). Courses will be selected in consultation with the graduate advisor. Upon entry into the program all students will take diagnostic exams in Ancient Greek and Latin to determine appropriate language level placement.
2. A project consisting of a major research paper to be written during the summer, under the supervision of a faculty member;
3. A comprehension test in French or German or Italian; exemption from this test may be granted to candidates who have completed an equivalent test at this or other universities.

M.A. Program Description

The objective of the program is to provide students with a deeper knowledge of Greek and Roman civilisation than they have obtained in their undergraduate degrees, to improve their ability in Greek and Latin as well as in the major modern languages of classical scholarship, and to develop their skills in research, critical thinking, and written expression. This training furnishes students with valuable skills that can be applied to employment in contexts beyond the university, such as museum work, and beyond Classics, such as law, librarianship, teaching at the secondary level, and the business world. This objective is achieved through course work, major research papers, and a thesis (2-year degree) or project (1-year degree), teaching and research assistantships, and excavation and museum fieldwork for archaeologists and others.

Admission Requirements for the MA program

Applicants for the M.A. Program in Classics may be admitted as Regular Students if they are graduates with at least B+ standing of any Honours program taken at McMaster or other university, which includes:

1. At least 12 units of either Ancient Greek or Latin and at least 6 units of the other language with an average of at least B in each language.
2. At least 36 additional units of Classical Civilization, Greek, Latin, Ancient History, or other courses approved by the Department of Classics, at least 12 of these units to be in upper-level courses.

Graduates without sufficient specialization may be admitted with the requirement that they complete extra prerequisite courses with a grade of at least B+.

Candidates will not be allowed to take a graduate course in a language or area in which the Department feels they do not have sufficient background.

Program Requirements:

With the approval of the Department of Classics, candidates may take the degree either with or without thesis. A grade of at least B- is required in all courses.

Requirements for the M.A. degree with thesis are:

1. Ten half courses (one-term courses) offered by the Department, of which no more than four may be at the undergraduate level, and of which at least four, two in each year, must be graduate or undergraduate Latin or Greek (permission of the Graduate Advisor is required to take a course at undergraduate level). Students must pass at least one language class at the graduate level in each ancient language. Six courses are completed in the first year of study and four additional courses are taken in year two. Courses will be selected in consultation with the Graduate Advisor. A grade of

at least B- is required in all courses. Upon entry into the program all students will take diagnostic exams in Ancient Greek and Latin to determine appropriate language level placement.

2. A comprehension test in French or German or Italian; exemption from this test may be granted to candidates who have completed an equivalent test at this or other universities.
3. A satisfactory thesis of approximately 80 pages on an approved topic.
4. An oral examination to defend the thesis.

Requirements of the M.A. degree without thesis are:

1. Six half courses offered by the Department, of which no more than two may be at the undergraduate level, and of which at least two must be graduate or undergraduate Latin or Greek (permission of the Graduate Adviser is required to take a course at undergraduate level). Courses will be selected in consultation with the graduate advisor. Students entering with less than 24 units of Greek and Latin may require two years to complete the degree and so should anticipate taking the degree with thesis. Upon entry into the program all students will take diagnostic exams in Ancient Greek and Latin to determine appropriate language level placement.
2. A project consisting of a major research paper to be written during the summer, under the supervision of a faculty member;
3. comprehension test in French or German or Italian; exemption from this test may be granted to candidates who have completed an equivalent test at this or other universities.

MA Supervisory Committees

Students entering the program are instructed to think about possible thesis topics and to approach appropriate faculty members to discuss ideas in term 1. At the beginning of term 2, once students have been granted permission to write a thesis (as opposed to writing a project), assignments of supervisors and students are made with agreement on both sides, usually arranged with the aid of the graduate advisor. Throughout term 3, while the proposal is being researched and written, the student and supervisor decide on two appropriate committee members among the faculty; the student is responsible for asking those two faculty members to serve on the committee. Department approval must be obtained for faculty outside of the Department of Classics. A committee meeting is held before the proposal is submitted for circulation to the whole department to establish a time-table for completion. The two secondary committee members may be consulted throughout the writing of the thesis and may read drafts.

MA thesis or project

Students write either a thesis or project; the former results in a two-year MA, the latter in a one-year MA. The aim of both thesis and project is to address a specific issue or set of

issues, a corpus of material, or set of problems and, through research and critical inquiry, produce a thoughtful piece of scholarship. The major difference is one of scale. A thesis is approximately 80-100 pages while a project is 50-60 pages. A thesis involves a proposal of 5-6 pages with bibliography, and, in the course of production, a series of chapter drafts. A project is less ambitious, and involves consultation and discussion with a supervisor, but no drafts; a single, final text is submitted to the department, with a transcript notation of 'pass' or 'fail'.

Summary: Timetable for the MA program

Year 1: September-April

- modern language exam in Term 1;
- 6 courses (3 courses per term), 2 of which must be Greek and Latin (undergraduate or graduate, depending on student's level of preparation);
- students sometimes do extra modern language study, usually in German.

Year 1: summer

- students complete a project OR do reading and research which leads to a thesis proposal by the end of June;
- archaeology students sometimes participate in excavations in Europe (e.g., the agora in Athens); take short study trips to specific museums or sites related to their thesis; or do summer programs in specialized subjects (e.g., numismatics, epigraphy). These efforts are usually funded in part by the E.T. Salmon fund in Roman Studies, the Edith Wightman travel scholarship, or the Raynsford-Eatock Travel Bursary in Greek studies;
- some students take extra language courses in another modern language.

Year 2: September-April

- 4 courses (2 courses per term), 2 of which must be Greek and Latin;
- completion of Master's thesis

Year 2: summer

- thesis submitted and defended by the end of summer.
- in unusual cases students finish their thesis by term 5, and graduate at spring convocation. The great majority of students, however, require the full second year to finish their thesis.

Ph.D. in Classics

Candidates for the Ph.D. degree in the program offered by the Department of Classics must comply with the general regulations of the School of Graduate Studies and the specific regulations listed below.

Admission to the Program:

Applicants for the Ph.D. Program in Classics may be admitted if they are graduates with either a grade of at least A- in at least two half courses or distinction in an approved thesis of an M.A. Program in Classics or Classical Studies (with sufficient Greek and Latin), taken at this University or of equivalent programs taken at other universities. Graduates of other programs may be admitted in exceptional cases. Applicants without sufficient preparation may be admitted with the requirement that they complete extra prerequisite courses.

Program Requirements:

The general requirements for the Ph.D. degree appear earlier in the Calendar. A grade of at least B- is required in all courses and in Special Areas examinations.

Requirements for the Ph.D. degree are:

1. Six appropriate graduate half courses. These are the minimum requirements; candidates may be requested by their supervisor to take additional courses;
2. One comprehensive examination in each of Greek and Latin translation;
3. A language examination to demonstrate reading knowledge of two of the following languages: German, French, Italian; exemption from these tests may be granted to candidates who have completed equivalent tests at this or other universities;
4. Two comprehensive examinations, covering special areas of Greek and Latin literature or Ancient History or Classical Art and Archaeology; these are to be assigned by the supervisory committee in preparation for the thesis;
5. A thesis proposal approved by the Department with an oral defense;
6. Any other requirement established by the Department on admission;
7. A satisfactory thesis on an approved topic;
8. An oral examination to defend the thesis.

PhD Program

The objective of the program is to prepare candidates for an academic career. Graduates are expected to have acquired:

- i. the autonomy, critical acumen, and familiarity with the conventions of the discipline necessary for conducting scholarly research suitable for publication;
- ii. the ability to teach a range of subjects in Classical civilization, including both Greek and Latin. Students must acquire a reading knowledge of two modern languages (generally German, French, or Italian) by the end of their first year, and are encouraged to learn additional languages as their individual research demands.

Admission Requirements for the PhD program

Applicants for the PhD. Program in Classics may be admitted if they are graduates with either a grade of at least A- in at least two half courses and distinction in an approved thesis (or project) of an M.A. program in Classics or Classical Studies (with sufficient Greek and Latin), taken at this university or of equivalent programs taken at other universities. Graduates of other programs may be admitted in exceptional cases. Applicants without sufficient preparation may be admitted with the requirement that they complete extra prerequisite courses.

Program Requirements

A grade of at least B- is required in all courses and Special Area examinations.

1. Four appropriate graduate level half courses, 2 of which are in Greek and Latin. These are the minimum requirements; candidates may be requested by their supervisor to take additional courses.
2. Four comprehensive examinations, each one three hours in duration. All comprehensive exams must be completed by December of year 2.
 - i. one in Greek;
 - ii. one in Latin
 - iii. one area comprehensive examination in the subject area of the student's thesis;
 - iv. one area comprehensive that provides breadth, allowing some focus on the thesis but also including coverage of less closely related material.
3. A language examination to demonstrate reading knowledge of two of the following languages: German, French, Italian; exemption from these tests may be granted to candidates who have completed equivalent tests at other universities. They will be set as described under the MA requirements.
4. A thesis proposal approved by the Department following an oral defense.
5. Any other requirement established by the Department on admission.
6. A satisfactory thesis on an approved topic.
7. An oral examination to defend the thesis.

Supervisory Committees

All incoming PhD students will be assigned a supervisor upon admission, and no student shall be admitted without a specific supervisor. New PhD students will meet with their supervisor immediately upon arrival on campus and begin discussion of the thesis topic, composition of thesis committee, and topics of comprehensive exams, including contents of Greek and Latin reading lists (see below). All thesis committees will be set by the end of Sept. of year 1 of program (i.e., within one month of arrival on campus). Department approval must be obtained for faculty outside of the Department of Classics. When necessary, committee members external to McMaster may be invited to join a committee, and must be given permission to do so by the Dean of Graduate Studies. The student and supervisory committee decide upon the appropriate special subject areas for the comprehensive examinations, and establish a timetable for the completion of all

comprehensive exams. Progress reports are made at committee meetings which are held and formally reported twice a year (April and November). Additional meetings may be called by the supervisor or student as necessary.

Comprehensive Examinations

Students must write two examinations in two special subjects related to their areas of specialization, one in the subject area of the student's thesis, and one in a subject that provides breadth, allowing some focus on the thesis but also including coverage of less closely related material. The subject matter is discussed and agreed up by the supervisory committee and the student, and a reading lists for all are drawn up. The exams are three hours in length and are to be completed 18 months after the student enters the program. An oral exam might be required if performance on the written exam is inferior, in order to allow the student another opportunity to answer the questions. A minimum grade of B- must be obtained in order to pass. A "Pass with distinction" is awarded when the student achieves a grade of A or A+.

For the Greek and Latin exams

The aim of the comprehensive exams is to ensure that each student has reached an established level of familiarity with Greek and Latin texts. In September, new incoming PhD students and their supervisors construct a reading list that is tailored to their interests and to gaps in their knowledge. The minimum number of 500 Oxford Classical Text pages is required for each of Greek and Latin for philology and ancient history students (i.e., 1000 pages total), and 400 pages for each of Greek and Latin for archaeology students (800 pages total). Up to 20% of the list may consist of material already read by the student. The list will include a mix of poetry and prose and must be approved by the student's thesis committee. Students may bring a dictionary and grammar book into the language exams. For each language comprehensive the student will choose 3 passages (out of 5) of 20-30 lines in length for translation; in addition, there will be 1 'sight unseen' passage taken from an author on the core list. All 4 passages shall be equal in value. The language exams will be set by a faculty member other than the supervisor, and there will be an appropriate second reader for each exam.

PhD thesis proposal and thesis

By April of year 1, student and supervisor should be prepared to present to the rest of the thesis committee for discussion and approval:

- i. the proposed thesis topic, with 2-3 page summary and initial bibliography;
- ii. the topics and bibliographies for the two area comprehensive exams;
- iii. reading lists for the Greek and Latin language exams;
- iv. a timetable for completion of all comprehensives, which must be completed by December of that calendar year.

By February of year 2, the student must submit to the department a formal thesis proposal of 15-20 pages of text (including chapter outlines), with additional bibliography. The proposal must be defended orally before the supervisory committee immediately following its submission. The proposal must outline the issues or body of material to be addressed and the primary methodologies that the student intends to adopt. The proposal is not meant to present conclusions; rather, it should demonstrate a sufficient familiarity with the subject matter and its scholarly bibliography to instil confidence that the student is ready to pursue further investigation equipped with clear goals and intentions. The oral defence of the proposal should demonstrate substantial knowledge of the subject and its related issues, some discussion of anticipated problems and potential solutions, and an ability to think and speak about the topic thoughtfully and spontaneously. A completed thesis must constitute original research and make a contribution to learning in the chosen field.

While this is an ideal timetable, many students take an extra year to complete the thesis, especially if they have had to do substantial fieldwork or have studied at a foreign school (e.g., the American School of Classical Studies in Athens). Generally, the significant advantages in experience, professional connections, and intellectual understanding that come with such experience are considered worth the extra time taken for completion and make the student more competitive on the job market. We strongly encourage all our students to find ways to study abroad and give them as much financial support as possible using the E.T. Salmon fund in Roman Studies, the Edith Wightman travel fellowship, and the Raynsford-Eatock Travel Bursary in Greek Studies.

Graduate Funding

Graduate funding from the university through the Department is available to full-time students on a competitive basis. Scholarships are given for the first two years of the M.A. program and the first four years of the Ph.D. program. The “Plan for Graduate Education at McMaster” sets a minimum guaranteed funding for doctoral students, the current value is \$17,500/year for four years. This amount is made up of a university scholarship awarded by the Department (usually valued between \$4000 and \$9500) and a Teaching Assistantship (valued at \$11,343.80 for 2019/20). All eligible Ph.D. candidates are required to apply for OGS and SSHRC awards (valued between \$15,000 and \$35,000). SSHRC and OGS applications are submitted through the Department of Classics in late October.

Outstanding students are eligible for additional university scholarships such as the Harry Lyman Hooker Senior Scholarship. The department is responsible for nominating candidates for such awards. As funding for the M.A. given for the first two years and funding for the Ph.D. is given for the first four years, students taking additional time to complete their degrees are encouraged to seek external funding. In recent years, students have applied to the American School of Classical Studies in Athens and the Canadian Institute in Greece.

Grants for Travel and Research

Travel and fieldwork are often important components of a graduate degree in Classics. The Department encourages students to pursue appropriate opportunities related to their research interests. Students may apply to the E.T. Salmon fund in Roman Studies, the Edith Wightman Travel Fellowship and the Raynsford-Eatock Travel Bursary in Greek Studies to support research in the field or on-site. Students should let the advisors know of their intent to apply by the start of term 2 of the appropriate academic year.

Graduate Activities

Attendance in class and seminars is mandatory and is taken seriously. Students are expected to make efforts to contact instructors in the case of illness or emergency.

Departmental Speakers' Series

The Department strives to promote the exchange of ideas and to create an environment of intellectual curiosity. The Department regularly schedules talks by invited speakers, most events occur on Thursday afternoons at 4:30 pm. Attendance at departmental talks is mandatory and should be considered part of professional training. Graduate students should generally leave Thursday afternoons open in their schedules.

Proseminars

The department offers proseminars throughout the academic year. Most are scheduled for Thursday afternoons at 4:30 pm. The proseminars are generally led by departmental faculty and cover both academic areas and professionalization. Attendance at the proseminars is mandatory.

The Department frequently holds additional events including invited speakers and conferences, some of which fall on Saturdays. Graduate students are expected to make efforts to attend these sponsored events.

Graduate Student Milestones

Matriculation in the graduate program includes numerous milestones intended to ensure academic excellence and a timely completion of a thesis or dissertation. For most students, successful completion of the degree includes the milestones listed on the charts below. However, individual supervisors and committees may require variations from the dates listed.

M.A. Without Thesis

Initial Meeting with Graduate Advisor	September, academic year 1
Modern language comprehension exam	September/October, academic year 1
Selection of supervisor for major research paper	January, academic year 1
Completion of major research paper	Summer, academic year 1

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MA With Thesis

Initial Meeting with Graduate Advisor	September, academic year 1
Selection of thesis supervisor and formation of thesis supervisory committee (two faculty members in addition to the supervisor)	Late September, academic year 1
Modern language comprehension exam	September/October, academic year 1
Submission of SSHRC CGS-M application	December, academic year 1
Thesis supervisory committee meeting	April, academic year 1
Submission of thesis proposal	June, academic year 1
Completion of draft of first thesis chapter	August, academic year 1
Thesis supervisory committee meeting	Fall, academic year 2
Completion of draft of second thesis chapter	December, academic year 2
Completion of draft of third thesis chapter	April, academic year 2
Thesis supervisory committee meeting	April, academic year 2
Submission of thesis to supervisory committee	August, academic year 2
Thesis defence and submission of thesis to SGS	August/September, academic year 2

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Ph.D.

Initial Meeting with Graduate Advisor	September, academic year 1
First modern language comprehension exam	September/October, academic year 1
Submission of SSHRC Ph.D. application	October, academic year 1
Selection of thesis supervisor	January, academic year 1
Formation of thesis topic and thesis supervisory committee (two faculty members in addition to supervisor)	Spring, academic year 1
Second modern language comprehension exam	Spring, academic year 1
Formation of Greek and Latin Reading lists for comprehensive exams (in consultation with supervisor, committee, and exam reader)	April, academic year 1
Formation of topics for area exams	April, academic year 1
Thesis supervisory committee meeting	April, academic year 1
First comprehensive language exam	Late June, academic year 1
Second comprehensive language exam	Late August, academic year 1
First area exam	October, academic year 2
Second area exam	January, academic year 2
Submission of thesis proposal	February, academic year 2

Courses

Please note: not all courses are offered in any one year

Literature

- CLASSICS *721 / Greek Epic Poetry
- CLASSICS *722 / Greek Tragedy
- CLASSICS *723 / Greek Comedy
- CLASSICS *724 / Hellenistic Poetry
- CLASSICS *728 / Greek Historical Writers
- CLASSICS *732 / Reading in a Selected Greek Author
- CLASSICS *733 / Greek Lyric Poetry
- CLASSICS *747 / Topics in Classical Literature
- CLASSICS *751 / Roman Satire
- CLASSICS *752 / Roman Comedy
- CLASSICS *754 / Vergil
- CLASSICS *755 / Horace
- CLASSICS *756 / Cicero
- CLASSICS *757 / Roman Historical Writers
- CLASSICS *760 / Catullus
- CLASSICS *761 / Roman Elegy
- CLASSICS *763 / Reading in a Selected Latin Author

Art and Archaeology

- CLASSICS *725 / Topics in the Art and Archaeology of Antiquity
- CLASSICS *726 / Topics in the Iconography of Greek and Roman Art
- CLASSICS *735 / Topics in Greek Art and Archaeology
- CLASSICS *736 / Topography of Athens
- CLASSICS *738 / Greek Colonization
- CLASSICS *753 / The City of Rome
- CLASSICS *767 / Roman Campania
- CLASSICS *770 / Topics in Roman Art and Archaeology
- CLASSICS *771 / Augustus and Rome
- CLASSICS *780 / Independent Study in Classical Archaeology

Ancient History

- CLASSICS *714 / Origins of the Polis
- CLASSICS *715 / Speech, Performance, and Power in the Athenian Democracy
- CLASSICS *734 / Latin Epigraphy
- CLASSICS *739 / Topics in Late Roman Republican and Early Imperial History
- CLASSICS *742 / Tacitus and Tiberius
- CLASSICS *743 / Roman Slavery
- CLASSICS *744 / Death and Commemoration in the Roman World
- CLASSICS *759 / Ancient Historiography
- CLASSICS *764 / Topics in Greek History
- CLASSICS *766 / Studies in the Social and Cultural Life of Antiquity

Contact Us

Department of Classics

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