CLASSICS

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The Department of Classics offers a major in Classics, concentrating in either Greek or Latin literature, or in both literatures; a major in Classical Civilization; and, in conjunction with the Hellenic Studies program, a major in Ancient and Modern Greek. The diversity of subject matter covered by these majors makes Classics an excellent partner in interdepartmental major programs. Programs for all majors must be approved by the director of undergraduate studies.

PLACEMENT PROCEDURES

Students are encouraged to take courses as advanced as they can handle with profit and pleasure. The department, recognizing the great variety of preparation in ancient languages, wishes to accommodate incoming students in as flexible a manner as possible. Students who plan either to begin or to continue the study of Greek or Latin should consult members of the departmental faculty as soon as practicable.

Students who have had the equivalent of two years of college-level instruction may try a 400-level course. It is possible to take GREK 141 or LATN 141 after a 400-level course, or to be admitted to a 400-level course after completion of GREK 131 or LATN 131. First-year students are encouraged to take advantage of the initial course selection period before course schedules are due to find the most appropriate course.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE MAJOR IN CLASSICS

The major in Classics is primarily a liberal arts major. It provides a rigorous interdisciplinary education in the literature, material culture, and history that underlie Western civilization and other humanities disciplines; it can also provide foundational disciplinary expertise for students who wish to do professional graduate work. Students develop a mastery of the classical languages, become acquainted with important periods and major authors in Greek and Roman literature, and develop the linguistic, historical, and theoretical interpretative tools to analyze classical antiquity and its relevance in the modern world. All courses in the department emphasize a combination of precise analysis, original thought, creativity, and breadth of historical inquiry. Courses in other literatures, in history, and in philosophy are strongly recommended for students enrolled in the Classics major.

The candidate for the Classics major may elect either the standard or the intensive major. In both of these majors the department recognizes two kinds of concentration, one aiming at knowledge of both ancient literatures, the other concentrating on either Greek or Latin literature.

The standard major A standard major in two literatures requires no fewer than ten term courses. These include six term courses in Greek and Latin at the level of 390 or above, a survey of the literature and culture of ancient Athens (CLCV 256, which can be substituted with another course in Greek history or culture if CLCV 256 is not offered a particular year), a survey of the literature and culture of ancient Rome (CLCV 257, which can be substituted with another course in Roman history or culture if CLCV 257 is not offered a particular year), and two additional courses in related areas of history and art. The language courses must include GREK 390 or LATN 390 and five term courses at the level of 400 or above. One of the additional courses in a related field must be a term course in ancient history, and the other must be a term course in ancient history, classical art and archaeology, or classical civilization.

Students majoring in one literature (Greek or Latin) are required to take no fewer than ten term courses. These include six term courses in that literature at the level of 390 or above, a survey of the literature and culture of ancient Athens (CLCV 256, which can be substituted with another course in Greek history or culture if CLCV 256 is not offered a particular year), a survey of the literature and culture of ancient Rome (CLCV 257, which can be substituted with another course in Roman history or culture if CLCV 257 is not offered a particular year), a term course in ancient history related to the chosen literature, and an additional term course in ancient history, classical art and archaeology, or classical civilization. The language courses must include GREK 390 or LATN 390 and at least five term courses at the level of 400 or above. Students are encouraged to do some work in the second language and may substitute two terms at the intermediate level (131 and 141) or higher in the second language for two 400-level courses in the major literature. One of the additional courses in a related field must be a term course in ancient history, and the other must be a term course in ancient history, classical art and archaeology, or classical civilization.

The intensive major Students who desire a larger measure of independence than the standard major offers may elect the intensive major. In addition to fulfilling the requirements of the standard major (in both literatures, in Greek, or in Latin), students in the intensive major write a senior essay under the regular guidance of a faculty adviser.

Combined B.A./M.A. degree Exceptionally able and well-prepared students may complete a course of study leading to the simultaneous award of the B.A. and M.A. degrees after eight terms of enrollment. See "Simultaneous Award of the Bachelor's and Master's Degrees" under section K, Special Arrangements, in the Academic Regulations. Interested students should consult the director of undergraduate studies prior to the sixth term of enrollment for specific requirements in Classics.

Credit/D/Fail Courses taken Credit/D/Fail may not be counted toward the requirements of the major.
SENIOR REQUIREMENT

For the standard major At the end of the senior year the student majoring in both Greek and Latin takes a comprehensive examination in the history of Greek and Latin literature and culture and in translation of both languages; the student majoring in either Greek or Latin takes a senior departmental examination in the history of the literature of the major and in translation of that literature.

For the intensive major Students may write a one-term essay in either the fall or spring (CLSS 492), or they may write a two-term essay (CLSS 490 and 491) starting in the fall of their senior year. A brief prospectus of the essay must be submitted, preferably at the end of the junior year and in no case later than the end of September of the senior year. The candidate must submit two copies of the senior essay to the director of undergraduate studies no later than December 7 (CLSS 492) or April 19 (CLSS 490, 491 or 492) of the senior year.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE MAJOR

Prerequisites None

Number of courses 10 term courses

Specific courses required GREEK 390 or LATN 390; CLCV 256 and 257

Distribution of courses Two literatures — 6 courses in both langs at level 390 or above, with at least 5 at 400 level or above; 1 course in ancient hist; 1 addtl course in ancient hist, classical art and archaeology, or classical civ; One literature — 6 courses in lit at level 390 or above, with at least 5 at 400 level or above; 1 course in ancient hist related to lit of major; 1 addtl course in ancient hist, classical art and archaeology, or classical civ

Substitution permitted One literature — 2 courses in the other lit numbered 131 or higher for 2 courses in major lit at 400 level; All majors — a course in Greek history or culture for CLCV 256 and/or a course in Roman history or culture for CLCV 257, if they are not offered in a particular year

Senior requirement Two literatures — senior dept exam in hist and translation of Greek and Latin lit; One literature — senior dept exam in hist and translation of major lit

Intensive major Senior essay (CLSS 490, 491 or CLSS 492) in addition to above

REQUIREMENTS OF THE MAJOR IN CLASSICAL CIVILIZATION

The major in Classical Civilization is designed to offer students an opportunity to study an entire Western civilization in its many diverse but related aspects. The literature, history, philosophy, religion, art, archaeology, and other aspects of Greek and Roman antiquity from the earliest beginnings in Greece to the Middle Ages are studied for their intrinsic artistic value, their historical significance, and their power to illuminate problems confronting contemporary societies. Each year, the department offers courses that focus on ways that subsequent ages have used and made sense of classical antiquity. Ancient texts are studied primarily in translation, though under the guidance of instructors who have expertise in Greek and Latin.

Candidates for the major complete at least twelve term courses (including the senior essay) in Classics and related departments. Of these, two must be in ancient history and/or classical art and archaeology; and two must be in Greek or Latin, or both, numbered 131 or higher (the latter courses should be completed by the end of the junior year). Students must also take a survey of the literature and culture of ancient Athens (CLCV 256, which can be substituted with another course in Greek history or culture if CLCV 256 is not offered a particular year) and a survey of the literature and culture of ancient Rome (CLCV 257, which can be substituted with another course in Roman history or culture if CLCV 257 is not offered a particular year). It is strongly recommended that candidates elect one course each in the general areas of ancient epic, drama, philosophy, Roman civilization, and the classical tradition. Candidates for the major are encouraged to take related courses in other departments.

Credit/D/Fail Courses taken Credit/D/Fail may not be counted toward the requirements of the major.

SENIOR REQUIREMENT

Students research and complete an original research project, usually an essay, under the guidance of a faculty adviser. Students choose either a two-term senior project for two course credits (CLCV 450, 451) or a one-term senior project for one course credit (CLCV 452).

Students who elect the one-term senior project need to take one additional course towards the major. A brief prospectus of the project must be submitted to the director of undergraduate studies, preferably at the end of the junior year and in no case later than the end of September of the senior year. The completed project must be submitted to the department no later than December 7 (CLCV 452) or April 19 (CLCV 450, 451 or CLCV 452) of the senior year.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE MAJOR

Prerequisites None

Number of courses 12 term courses (incl a two-term senior essay, or a one-term senior essay and an additional course)

Specific courses required CLCV 256 and 257

Distribution of courses 2 courses in ancient hist and/or classical art and archaeology; 2 courses in Greek or Latin (or both) numbered 131 or higher

Substitution permitted a course in Greek history or culture for CLCV 256, and/or a course in Roman history or culture for CLCV 257, if they are not offered in a particular year

Senior requirement Senior project (CLCV 450, 451 or CLCV 452 and an additional course)
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR IN ANCIENT AND MODERN GREEK

The major in Ancient and Modern Greek offers students an opportunity to integrate the study of postclassical Greek language, history, and culture with the departmental program in ancient Greek and classical civilization. The major covers Hellenic civilization from the Bronze Age to the modern day, and traces the development of the language and the culture across traditionally drawn boundaries. The study of both ancient and modern Greek allows the student to appreciate how familiarity with one enriches understanding of the other, and to chart the development of a language which has one of the oldest continuous written traditions in the world. The literature, history, philosophy, religion, and art of the ancient Greek and Greco-Roman worlds are studied both as ends in themselves and also as a foundation for appreciating later (medieval, Ottoman, and modern) developments in these areas. Students are encouraged to develop a sense of the continuity of Greek language and culture, and an understanding of how Byzantine and modern forms relate to their ancient forebears.

The standard major  The major in Ancient and Modern Greek requires at least ten term courses. These include four term courses at the level of 390 or above in ancient Greek, a survey of the literature and culture of ancient Athens (CLCV 256, which can be substituted with another course in Greek history or culture if CLCV 256 is not offered a particular year), a survey of the literature and culture of ancient Rome (CLCV 257, which can be substituted with another course in Roman history or culture if CLCV 257 is not offered a particular year) and one term course in ancient Greek history. The language courses should include GREK 390. Candidates are encouraged to take a wide range of courses in the areas of ancient philosophy, religion, art, and architecture. In addition, no fewer than two term courses in modern Greek must be elected at the intermediate level (MGRK 130, 140) or above, as well as at least one additional term course in the history, art history, literature, or culture of the Greek-speaking Balkans or the Hellenic diaspora in the medieval, Ottoman, or modern period.

The intensive major  Students who desire a larger measure of independence than the standard major offers may elect the intensive major. In addition to fulfilling the requirements of the standard major, students in the intensive major write a senior essay under the regular guidance of a faculty adviser.

Credit/D/Fail  Courses taken Credit/D/Fail may not be counted toward the requirements of the major.

SENIOR REQUIREMENT

The standard major  At the end of the senior year the student takes a comprehensive examination in the history of Greek literature and culture.

The intensive major  Students may write a one-term essay in the fall or spring (CLSS 492), or they may write a two-term essay starting in the fall of their senior year (CLSS 490 and 491). A brief prospectus of the essay must be submitted, preferably at the end of the junior year and in no case later than the end of September of the senior year. The candidate must submit two copies of the senior essay to the director of undergraduate studies no later than December 7 (CLSS 492) or April 19 (CLSS 490, 491, or CLSS 492) of the senior year.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE MAJOR

Prerequisites  None
Number of courses  10 term courses
Specific courses required  GREK 390; CLCV 256 and 257
Distribution of courses  4 term courses in ancient Greek numbered 390 or higher; 1 term course in ancient Greek hist; 2 term courses in modern Greek numbered 130 or higher; 1 term course in postclassical Greek hist or culture
Substitution permitted  a course in Greek history or culture for CLCV 256, and/or a course in Roman history or culture for CLCV 257, if they are not offered in a particular year
Senior requirement  Senior dept exam
Intensive major  Senior essay (CLSS 490, 491 or CLSS 492) in addition to above

FACULTY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS

Professors  Egbert Bakker, Kirk Freudenburg, Emily Greenwood, Verity Harte, Brad Inwood, Diana Kleiner, Christina Kraus, Noel Lenski, Joseph Manning

Associate Professors  Milette Gaifman, Andrew Johnston, Pauline LeVen, Irene Peirano Garrison

Assistant Professors  Andrew Johnston, Jessica Lamont

Lecturers  Francoise Gerardin, Ann Ellis Hanson, Susan Matheson, Timothy Robinson, Barbara Shailor, Joseph Solodow

Courses

Greek

GREK 110a, Beginning Greek: The Elements of Greek Grammar  Treasa Bell
Introduction to ancient Greek. Emphasis on morphology and syntax within a structured program of readings and exercises. Prepares for GREK 120. No prior knowledge of Greek assumed.  L1 RP  1½ Course cr
GREK 120b, Beginning Greek: Review of Grammar and Selected Readings  Staff
Continuation of GREK 110. Emphasis on consolidating grammar and on readings from Greek authors. The sequence GREK 110, 120 prepares for 131 or 141. Prerequisite: GREK 110 or equivalent.  L2  RP  1½ Course cr

* GREK 125b, Intensive Beginning Greek  Timothy Robinson
An introduction to classical Greek for students with no prior knowledge of the language. Readings from Greek authors supplement intensive instruction in grammar and vocabulary. The course is intended to be of use to students with diverse academic backgrounds and interests. Prepares for GREK 131. Not open to students who have taken GREK 110, 120.  L1, L2  RP  2 Course cr

GREK 131a, Greek Prose: An Introduction  Rachel Love
Close reading of selections from classical Greek prose with review of grammar. Counts as L4 if taken after GREK 141 or equivalent.  L3

GREK 141b, Homer: An Introduction  Pauline LeVen
A first approach to reading Homeric poetry in Greek. Selected books of the Iliad or the Odyssey. Counts as L4 if taken after GREK 131 or equivalent.  L3

* GREK 450a, Euripides  Egbert Bakker
Close reading of two late plays of Euripides: Helen and Ion. Euripides' literary and dramatic technique; issues of myth, geography, and cultural and personal identity.  L5, HU

* GREK 454b, Greek Myth, Fiction, and Science Fiction  Pauline LeVen
Relationships between ancient Greek myths, fiction, and speculative/science fiction, with attention to interpretive approaches and methodologies. Narrative modes of representing reality; distinguishing fiction from myth and science fiction; cultural uses of myth and fiction. Readings include works by Homer, Longus, Lucian, and Philostratus.  L5

* GREK 459a, Gender & Citizenship in Athenian Law  Emily Greenwood
This course examines the intersection of gender and citizenship in Athenian forensic (lawcourt) oratory from the 4th century BCE. We read and analyze selected speeches by Lysias, Demosthenes, Aeschines, and Apollodorus with particular attention to the ways in which these speeches represent and negotiate norms of gender and an inquiry into the interrelationship of sex, gender, and citizenship in Athenian law. The course focuses on the translation and interpretation of Athenian lawcourt speeches, informed by scholarship on Athenian law, scholarship on gender and sexuality in ancient Greece, and pertinent works of gender theory. This is a bridge course, intended to build competence and confidence in reading Greek and interpreting Greek literature. Prerequisite: Completion of an L4 Greek course or its equivalent.  L5, HU

* GREK 463b, Praxis and Theory of the Greek Symposium  Egbert Bakker
Reading and interpretation of a selection of texts (poetry and prose) pertaining to the Ancient Greek symposium as a central cultural institution. This is an L5 course (GREK 400/700) in the Classics programs (400 for undergraduate enrollment, 700 for graduate enrollment). Prerequisite is the 2-year (4-semesters) initiatory cycle (GREK 130-140).  L5

Latin

LATN 110a, Beginning Latin: The Elements of Latin Grammar  Staff
Introduction to Latin. Emphasis on morphology and syntax within a structured program of readings and exercises. Prepares for LATN 120. No prior knowledge of Latin assumed. Preregistration, which is required, takes place at the Academic Fair. See the Calendar for the Opening Days or the departmental Web site for details about preregistration.  L1  RP  1½ Course cr

LATN 120b, Beginning Latin: Review of Grammar and Selected Readings  Staff
Continuation of LATN 110. Emphasis on consolidating grammar and on readings from Latin authors. The sequence LATN 110, 120 prepares for 131 or 141. Prerequisite: LATN 110 or equivalent.  L2  RP  1½ Course cr

LATN 131a, Latin Prose: An Introduction  Jennifer Weintritt
Close reading of a major work of classical prose; review of grammar as needed. Counts as L4 if taken after LATN 141 or equivalent.  L3

LATN 141b, Latin Poetry: An Introduction  Staff
The course is devoted to Vergil. Counts as L4 if taken after LATN 131 or equivalent.  L3

* LATN 390b, Latin Syntax and Stylistics  Joseph Solodow
A systematic review of syntax and an introduction to Latin style. Selections from Latin prose authors are read and analyzed, and students compose short pieces of Latin prose. For students with some experience reading Latin literature who desire a better foundation in forms, syntax, idiom, and style.  L5, HU

* LATN 421a, Vergil's Aeneid  Kirk Freudenburg
An in-depth study of Vergil's Aeneid within its political context.  L5

LATN 414b, Roman Civil Wars  Irene Peirano
Ways in which Romans constructed and represented their civil wars in literature across a variety of genres (epic, lyric, historiography), authors (Vergil, Lucan, Caesar, Sallust) and time periods (late republic, empire).  L5, HU
LATN 4402, Roman Friendship  Joseph Solodow
Readings from works by Catullus (selected poems), Cicero (De Amicitia), Horace (Epistles I), Seneca the Younger and Pliny the Younger (selected letters). The concept of friendship and its importance in Roman society; comparison with other societies. A bridge course between L4 and other L5 courses.  L5, HU

* LATN 462a, The Histories of Tacitus  Christina Kraus
Close reading of the Histories of Tacitus and related selections from his other works. Attention to syntax and style. Focus on the influence of the author’s background and experience on his narrative.  L5, HU

* LATN 494a or b, Independent Tutorial in Latin Language and Literature  Pauline LeVen
For students with advanced Latin language skills who wish to engage in concentrated reading and research on material not otherwise offered in courses. The work should result in a term paper or examination. A limited number of these courses may be offered toward the major. Offered subject to faculty availability.

Classics

* CLCV 402b, Advanced Latin Paleography  Barbara Shailor
The challenges of using hand-produced Latin manuscripts in research, with an emphasis on texts from the late Middle Ages. Gothic cursive scripts and bookhands c. 1200–c. 1500; fragments of unidentified codices; complex or composite codices with heavy interlinear and marginal annotations. Manuscripts and fragments selected largely from collections in the Beinecke Library. Prerequisite: CLSS 401 or permission of instructor.  L5, HU

* CLCV 402a and CLSS 401b, Two-Term Senior Essay for the Intensive Major in Classics  Pauline LeVen
Qualified students may write a two-term senior essay in ancient literature or classical archaeology under the guidance of a faculty adviser. A written statement of purpose must be submitted to the director of undergraduate studies.

CLCV 402a or b, One-Term Senior Essay for the Intensive Major in Classics  Pauline LeVen
Qualified students may write a one-term senior essay in ancient literature or classical archaeology under the guidance of a faculty adviser. A written statement of purpose must be submitted to the director of undergraduate studies.

Classical Civilization

* CLCV 052a, The Myths of Oedipus  Christina Kraus
Study of different versions of the Oedipus myth, beginning with Sophocles' three plays (Oedipus the King, Antigone, and Oedipus at Colonus) and including modern adaptations such as those by Cocteau (The Infernal Machine), Fugard (The Island), and Dove (The Darker Face of the Earth); we also consider filmed adaptations such as Martha Grahame’s “Night Journey” (1947), The Gospel at Colonus (1984), and Oedipo alcalde (1996). Secondary material, including works by cultural, psychological, and literary critics, provide background for the literary works. Readings, writing exercises, and discussion aim both to elucidate the original context of the plays in fifth-century Athens and to understand their contested and still vigorous place in the canon and in the western humanities. All readings in English. Enrollment limited to first-year students. Preregistration required; see under First-Year Seminar Program.  HU

* CLCV 119b / LITR 165b, The Invention of the Classic  Irene Peirano
The discourse of classicism from antiquity to modern times. Contemporary debates over the value of the classics in education; the emergence of classics as a discipline; changing definitions of the classic across time; notions commonly associated with the classics such as timelessness, beauty, and canon. Readings from Cicero, Horace, Dionysius of Halicarnassus, Winckelmann, Eliot, Gadamer, Foucault, Kermode, Calvino, and Nussbaum.  HU

CLCV 125a / PHIL 125a, Introduction to Ancient Philosophy  Verity Harte
An introduction to ancient philosophy, beginning with the earliest pre-Socratics, concentrating on Plato and Aristotle, and including a brief foray into Hellenistic philosophy. Intended to be taken in conjunction with PHIL 126.  WR, HU

CLCV 161a / ARCG 161a / HSAR 247a, Art and Myth in Greek Antiquity  Milette Gaifman
Visual exploration of Greek mythology through the study of ancient Greek art and architecture. Greek gods, heroes, and mythological scenes foundational to Western culture; the complex nature of Greek mythology; how art and architecture rendered myths ever present in ancient Greek daily experience; ways in which visual representations can articulate stories. Use of collections in the Yale University Art Gallery.  WR, HU

CLCV 175a / ARCG 252a / HSAR 252a, Roman Architecture  Diana Kleiner
The great buildings and engineering marvels of Rome and its empire. Study of city planning and individual monuments and their decoration, including mural painting. Emphasis on developments in Rome, Pompeii, and central Italy; survey of architecture in the provinces.  HU
CLCV 204b / HIST 300b, Alexander the Great and the Hellenistic World  
Joseph Manning
The history and culture of the ancient world between the rise of Macedonian imperialism in the fourth century B.C.E. and the annexation of Egypt by Augustus in 30 B.C.E. Particular attention to Alexander, one of the most important figures in world history, and to the definition of “Hellenism.” HU

CLCV 205a / HIST 205a / HUMS 143a, Introduction to Ancient Greek History  
François Gerardin
Introduction to Greek history, tracing the development of Greek civilization as manifested in the political, military, intellectual, and creative achievements from the Bronze Age through the end of the Classical period. Students read original sources in translation as well as secondary scholarship to better understand the rise and fall of the ancient Greeks—the civilization at the very heart of Western Civilization. HU

CLCV 206a / HIST 217a / HUMS 144a, The Roman Republic  
François Gerardin
The origins, development, and expansion of Rome from the earliest times to the deaths of Caesar and Cicero. Cultural identity and interaction; slavery, class, and the family; politics, rhetoric, and propaganda; religion; imperialism; monumentality and memory; and the perception and writing of history. Application of literary and archaeological evidence. HU

CLCV 207b / HIST 218b, The Roman Empire  
François Gerardin
The history of the Roman Empire from its establishment by Augustus to the reign of Justinian. Attention to social, intellectual, and religious changes, as well as to the framework of historical events within which these changes took place, and to the processes by which the Roman Empire was replaced by the institutions of the Western Middle Ages and the Byzantine Empire. HU

* CLCV 209a / LITR 230a / MGRK 215a, Nikos Kazantzakis: From Revolution to Nihilism  
George Syrimis
The Greek poet, novelist, essayist, philosopher, playwright, and travel writer Nikos Kazantzakis. The philosophical influence of Darwin, Nietzsche, and Bergson on Kazantzakis; his fascination with the figures of Christ and Odysseus. Questions of fiction and autobiography, history and revolution, travel writing, twentieth-century existentialism, and the reception of the Homeric tradition. WR, HU TR

* CLCV 210a / LITR 239a / MGRK 216a / WGSS 209a, Dionysus in Modernity  
George Syrimis
Modernity’s fascination with the myth of Dionysus. Questions of agency, identity and community, and psychological integrity and the modern constitution of the self. Manifestations of Dionysus in literature, anthropology, and music; the Apollonian-Dionysiac dichotomy; twentieth-century variations of these themes in psychoanalysis, surrealism, and magical realism. HU TR

CLCV 232b, Food and Wine in the Ancient Greek World  
Egbert Bakker
Food is more than carbohydrates and proteins. It is about culture and identity, both collective and individual, and it has symbolic value. In this course we study the political, symbolic, and poetic importance of food and wine in Ancient Greece. We see how food defines humans with respect to the gods, Greeks with respect to non-Greeks, and how food is a central component of the meaning of entire epic poems, such as the Odyssey. But we also look at the reality of food consumption and production and how food and drink was studied by the physicians and scientists of the ancient world. Readings in translation. HU

* CLCV 310b / HIST 243b / MGRK 300b / WGSS 293b, The Olympic Games, Ancient and Modern  
George Syrimis
Introduction to the history of the Olympic Games from antiquity to the present. The mythology of athletic events in ancient Greece and the ritual, political, and social ramifications of the actual competitions. The revival of the modern Olympic movement in 1896, the political investment of the Greek state at the time, and specific games as they illustrate the convergence of athletic cultures and sociopolitical transformations in the twentieth century. HU

CLCV 419a / NELC 119a or b / NELC 419, Ancient Empires  
Kevin Van Bladel
This is an introduction to the history and cultures of the ancient empires of southwestern Asia, focusing on the period from the Assyrian and Persian Empires to the establishment of Islam (ca 900 BCE–ca 750 CE). Students learn how to use ancient primary sources critically to create a historical narrative and to understand the modern appropriation of ancient history for political and other purposes. Primary sources include classical Greek and Latin authors, as well as works composed in Iran, from royal inscriptions to neighboring Armenian and Aramaic sources chronicking war and strife. Major topics include the formation of early states, the kingdoms of Mesopotamia, Anshan and the Elamites, the Achaemenid dynasty, Alexander and his successors, the Parthian and Sasanian Persian empires and their rivalries with Rome, as well as the empires of Afghanistan and the kingdom of Armenia. Additionally, the course includes an introduction to the geography of southwestern Asia and a survey of languages, Iranian and other religions, and some ancient literature from a variety of cultures. Events covered in this course contributed decisively to the demography of the present-day Near East and the social characteristics of its people, from the distribution of language communities to the variety of Near Eastern religions. Students gain some understanding of the makeup of the modern Near East, including how the population of the region became predominantly Muslim. HU

* CLCV 450a and CLCV 451b, Two-Term Senior Project for the Major in Classical Civilization  
Pauline LeVen
Qualified students may write a two-semester senior essay under the guidance of a faculty adviser. An appropriate instructor is assigned to each student by the director of undergraduate studies in consultation with the student. In the first term, selected readings compensate for individual deficiencies and help the student achieve a balanced overview. In the second term, students select a topic for research from any area of the literature, history, culture, or philosophy of ancient Greece, Rome, or Hellenistic Egypt, or a topic from the classical tradition. An appropriate instructor is assigned to each student by the director of undergraduate studies in consultation with the student.

* CLCV 452a or b, One-Term Senior Project for the Major in Classical Civilization  
Pauline LeVen
A one-semester senior project. Students select a topic for research from any area of the literature, history, culture, or philosophy of ancient Greece, Rome, or Hellenistic Egypt, or a topic from the classical tradition. An appropriate instructor is assigned to each student by the director of undergraduate studies in consultation with the student.
* CLCV 494a or b, Independent Tutorial in Classical Civilization  Pauline LeVen
For students who wish to pursue a specialized subject in classical civilization not otherwise covered in courses. Students are expected to provide a detailed reading list and a clear outline of their project early in the term. The work should result in a term paper or examination. A limited number of these courses may be offered toward the major. Readings in translation. Offered subject to faculty availability.

GRADUATE COURSES OF INTEREST TO UNDERGRADUATES
Various graduate seminars are open to juniors and seniors with the qualifications expected of graduate students, i.e., proficiency in the pertinent ancient and modern languages. Descriptions of the courses are available from the director of undergraduate studies. Permission is required of the instructor, the director of undergraduate studies, and the director of graduate studies.