

Ancient Civilization, BA

The Bachelor of Arts in ancient civilization is a flexible program that allows students to study ancient Greece, Rome, the eastern Mediterranean, Mesopotamia, and Egypt from 3000 B.C.E. to 800 C.E. Ancient civilization majors work primarily in the English language, with their studies distributed among the areas of Greek and Roman languages and literatures, biblical studies, history, religion, philosophy, art, and archaeology.

Learning Outcomes

Students are expected to demonstrate:

- knowledge of major literary works and written sources from the ancient Mediterranean world (either in translation or their original language);
- familiarity with the physical world (both public and private) in which ancient Mediterranean people lived through the study of their art and archaeology;
- appreciation of the religious and ethical mindset of ancient peoples through a broad understanding of religious texts, mythology, religion, and philosophy; and
- understanding of the impact that the political, intellectual, and social environments of the people from the ancient Mediterranean have on modern cultures.

Requirements

The Bachelor of Arts with a major in ancient civilization requires a minimum of 120 s.h., including at least 30 s.h. of work for the major. Students must maintain a grade-point average of at least 2.00 in all courses for the major and in all UI courses for the major. They must also complete the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences GE CLAS Core.

The major concentrates on the ancient civilization of the Mediterranean world and draws on courses offered by various university departments. This is a flexible, interdisciplinary major that allows students to concentrate their study in areas such as religion, history, archaeology, Egyptology, or the eastern Mediterranean.

The major is sponsored by the Department of Classics and Religious Studies; the School of Art, Art History, and Design; and the Department of History (College of Liberal Arts and Sciences).

Students choose courses in consultation with their advisors. They must earn at least 9 s.h. in advanced courses, which may include English courses numbered 3000 or above or Greek, Latin, and/or Hebrew courses numbered 2000 and above. Transfer credit is evaluated individually.

In addition to completing required coursework, students maintain a required portfolio detailing their progress toward the major, which they must complete before graduation; see "Major Portfolio" below.

A maximum of 3 s.h. of coursework used to satisfy requirements for a minor in the Department of Classics and Religious Studies (e.g., classical languages) may be applied toward this major.

Students majoring only in ancient civilization may count a maximum of 56 s.h. earned in Classics and Religious

Studies courses toward the degree. BA students who are graduating with a double major in the department (e.g., ancient civilization and religious studies) may apply more than 56 s.h. from the Department of Classics and Religious Studies toward their degree, but they must earn at least 56 s.h. of credit in courses outside the Department of Classics and Religious Studies in order to graduate.

A course used to satisfy a requirement in one area cannot be used to satisfy a requirement in another area.

The BA with a major in ancient civilization requires the following coursework.

Requirements	Hours
Ancient Art and Archaeology Courses	3
Ancient History and Society Courses	3
Ancient Language and Literature Courses	3
Ancient Philosophy and Religion Courses	3
Additional Courses	18
Major Portfolio	

Ancient Art and Archaeology

More than half of each course is devoted to the study of ancient art or archaeology from the geographical limits identified as relevant by the Department of Classics and Religious Studies. Sculpture, pottery, architecture, and/or physical remains of an ancient culture are covered in these courses.

Course #	Title	Hours
At least 3 s.h. from these:		
CLSA:2127/ ASIA:2127/ JPNS:2127	Books of the Silk Roads	3
CLSA:2144/ HIST:2444	Engineering and Technology in the Ancient World	3
CLSA:2226/ ARTH:2320	Ancient Art From the Great Pyramids of Egypt to the Colosseum in Rome	3
CLSA:2330/ ARTH:2330	Ancient Egyptian, Mesopotamian, and Persian Art	3
CLSA:2340/ ARTH:2340	The Power of Art in Greece and Rome	3
CLSA:2444/ RELS:2444	Cities of the Bible	3
CLSA:2489/ RELS:2289	Jerusalem: The Holy City	3
CLSA:3220/ ARTH:3320/ RELS:3704	Egyptian Art	3
CLSA:3225/ ARTH:3325	Kings, Gods, and Heroes: Art of Ancient Mesopotamia and Persia	3
CLSA:3227/ ARTH:3330	Greek Art in the Age of the Parthenon	3
CLSA:3230/ ARTH:3335	Early Greek Art	3
CLSA:3232/ ARTH:3350	Art of Early Rome: Patrons and Politics	3
CLSA:3233/ ARTH:3360	Art of the Ancient Roman Empire	3
CLSA:3234/ ARTH:3370	Life and Death in Ancient Pompeii	3

CLSA:3235/ ANTH:3276	Greek Archaeology	3
CLSA:3240/ ANTH:3277	Roman Archaeology	3
CLSA:3275/ ARTH:3375/ RELS:3375	The Great Collision	3
CLSA:3596/ ANTH:3275	Egyptian Archaeology	3
CLSA:3821/ ANTH:3821/ HIST:3403	City of Athens: Bronze Age to Roman World	3

Ancient History and Society

More than half of each course is devoted to the chronological changes of a topic (not one that is purely art historical in nature, like sculpture or pottery) in the geographical limits identified as relevant by the Department of Classics and Religious Studies. Each course places the topic in its proper historical context.

Course #	Title	Hours
At least 3 s.h. from these:		
CLSA:1181/ GHS:1181	Ancient Medicine	3
CLSA:1805	Legends and Heroes of Ancient Rome	1
CLSA:1830	Greek Civilization	3
CLSA:1840	Roman Civilization	3
CLSA:1875	Ancient Sports and Leisure	3
CLSA:2144/ HIST:2444	Engineering and Technology in the Ancient World	3
CLSA:2151/ HIST:2431	Roman Law, Order, and Crime	3
CLSA:2444/ RELS:2444	Cities of the Bible	3
CLSA:2461/ HIST:2461/ RELS:2361	Middle East and Mediterranean: Alexander to Suleiman	3
CLSA:2489/ RELS:2289	Jerusalem: The Holy City	3
CLSA:2651/ GWSS:2651	Gender and Sexuality in the Ancient World	3
CLSA:2800	Race and Ethnicity in the Ancient Mediterranean World	3
CLSA:3020/ GHS:3021	Mental Health in the Ancient World	3
CLSA:3105/ GHS:3105/ GWSS:3105/ WLLC:3105	Contraception Across Time and Cultures	3
CLSA:3148/ HIST:3448	Barbarians and the Fall of Rome	3
CLSA:3401/ HIST:3401	The Mediterranean World after Alexander the Great	3
CLSA:3404/ HIST:3404	The World of Ancient Greece	3
CLSA:3821/ ANTH:3821/ HIST:3403	City of Athens: Bronze Age to Roman World	3

CLSA:3836/ ANTH:3204/ HIST:3436	Food in Ancient Mediterranean Society	3
CLSA:4106/ HIST:4406	Warfare in Ancient Mediterranean Society	3
CLSA:4400/ HIST:4400	The Roman Empire: 31 B.C.E. to 565 C.E.	3
CLSA:4403/ HIST:4403	Alexander the Great	3

Ancient Language and Literature

More than half of each course is devoted to the study of literature in translation or ancient language translation skills from the geographical limits identified as relevant by the Department of Classics and Religious Studies.

Course #	Title	Hours
At least 3 s.h. from these:		
CLSA:1010	Hero, God, Mortal: Literature of Greece	3
CLSA:1016	Classical Mythology	3
CLSA:1020	Love and Glory: The Literature of Rome	3
CLSA:1070/ RELS:1070	Introduction to the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament	3
CLSA:1080/ RELS:1080	Introduction to the New Testament	3
CLSA:1200	Interpretation of Ancient Literature	3
CLSA:1401/ RELS:1401	Biblical Hebrew I	4
CLSA:1402/ RELS:1402	Biblical Hebrew II	4
CLSA:1740/ WRIT:1740	Writing Strategies: Word Origins and Word Choice	3
CLSA:1805	Legends and Heroes of Ancient Rome	1
CLSA:2048/ ANTH:2248/ ASIA:2248/ COMM:2248/ GRMN:2248/ HIST:2148/IS:2248/ LING:2248/ TRNS:2248/ WLLC:2248	The Invention of Writing: From Cuneiform to Computers	3
CLSA:2122/ RELS:2122	The Place of Animals in the Hebrew Bible	3
CLSA:2421/ RELS:2421	Coptic I	3
CLSA:2422/ RELS:2422	Coptic II	3
CLSA:2431/ JSTU:2431/ RELS:2431	Biblical Aramaic	3
CLSA:2432/ JSTU:2432/ RELS:2432	Targumic Aramaic	3
CLSA:2910	Egyptian Hieroglyphs	3
CLSA:2986/ RELS:2986	Religion and Women	3
CLSA:3016	Myth Makers of the Classical World	3

CLSA:3247/ RELS:3247	Banned From the Bible: Pseudepigrapha and Apocrypha	3	CLSA:3666/ JSTU:3666/ RELS:3266	Angels and Demons	3
CLSA:3445/ RELS:3245	Mythology of Otherworldly Journeys	3	CLSA:4352/ PHIL:4152	Plato	3
CLSA:3742/ WRIT:3742	Word Power: Building English Vocabulary	3	CLSA:4353/ PHIL:4153	Aristotle	3
CLSA:3750	Medical and Technical Terminology	2	CLSA:4452/ RELS:4352	The Dead Sea Scrolls	3
CLSA:4452/ RELS:4352	The Dead Sea Scrolls	3			
CLSA:3979/ ENGL:3850/ TRNS:3179	Undergraduate Translation Workshop	3			
CLSL:3200/ CLSG:3200/ TRNS:3205	Literary Translation Workshop in Ancient Greek and Latin	3			

Ancient Greek courses (prefix CLSG)

Latin courses (prefix CLSL)

Ancient Philosophy and Religion

More than half of each course is devoted to the study of ancient religion, belief systems, or philosophy from the geographical limits identified as relevant by the Department of Classics and Religious Studies.

Course #	Title	Hours
At least 3 s.h. from these:		
CLSA:1001/ JSTU:1001/ RELS:1001	Judaism, Christianity, and Islam	3
CLSA:1016	Classical Mythology	3
CLSA:1070/ RELS:1070	Introduction to the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament	3
CLSA:1080/ RELS:1080	Introduction to the New Testament	3
CLSA:1415/ RELS:1415	Ancient Origins of Religious Conflict	3
CLSA:2122/ RELS:2122	The Place of Animals in the Hebrew Bible	3
CLSA:2300	Magic in the Ancient World	3
CLSA:2311/ PHIL:2111	Ancient Philosophy	3
CLSA:2444/ RELS:2444	Cities of the Bible	3
CLSA:2482/ RELS:2182	Ancient Mediterranean Religions	3
CLSA:2489/ RELS:2289	Jerusalem: The Holy City	3
CLSA:2620/ RELS:2620	Sex and the Bible	3
CLSA:3247/ RELS:3247	Banned From the Bible: Pseudepigrapha and Apocrypha	3
CLSA:3302/ PHIL:3002	Stoics and Epicureans, or How to Live Like a Roman Sage	3
CLSA:3443/ RELS:3243	Pagans and Christians: The Church From Jesus to Muhammad	3
CLSA:3445/ RELS:3245	Mythology of Otherworldly Journeys	3

Additional Courses

Course #	Title	Hours
At least 18 s.h. from these:		
CLSA:1809	Ancient World on the Modern Screen	3
CLSA:3920	Video Games and the Ancient World	3
CLSA:3980	Teaching in the Classics	1,3
CLSA:4085	Postbaccalaureate Seminar	1
CLSA:5010	Proseminar in Classics	1

Any courses in the Ancient Art and Archaeology, Ancient History and Society, Ancient Language and Literature, and Ancient Philosophy and Religion lists

Any course with the prefix CLSA, CLSG, or CLSL

Major Portfolio

To comply with the Iowa Board of Regents policy on student outcomes assessment, the Department of Classics and Religious Studies has established a method to assess the achievement level of students completing one of the department's majors. Students must maintain a portfolio that details their progress in attaining the objectives of their major. Students must register for and complete the following course.

Course #	Title	Hours
CLSA:3982	Graduation Portfolio	0

Students submit the portfolio to their undergraduate advisor by midterm of the semester in which they intend to graduate. Formal approval of the portfolio is required for graduation. Consult the undergraduate advisor for details.

Teacher Licensure

Students interested in teaching in elementary and/or secondary schools should seek admission to the Teacher Education Program (TEP) in the College of Education.

To qualify for licensure in secondary teaching, students in the TEP complete a degree in education as well as a related College of Liberal Arts and Sciences degree. See Apply on the College of Education website for details on requirements and deadlines for applying to the College of Education and about TEP choices of majors leading to licensure.

Honors

Honors in the Major

Students have the opportunity to graduate with honors in the major. Honors students must maintain a grade-point average (GPA) of at least 3.33 in their major. Additionally, a UI cumulative GPA of at least 3.33 at the time of graduation is required by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Students must complete two consecutive courses in honors reading, earning 3 s.h. of credit for each course. Honors work may be done in a student's fourth year, or spring of the third year and fall of the fourth year. The readings and discussions must be on an ancient author or a field in ancient history or literature chosen by the student and the instructor. At the end of the second semester, the student presents a substantial research project, which is evaluated for honors by two members of the department.

University of Iowa Honors Program

In addition to honors in the major, students have opportunities for honors study and activities through membership in the University of Iowa Honors Program. Visit Honors at Iowa to learn about the university's honors program.

Membership in the UI Honors Program is not required to earn honors in the ancient civilization major.

Career Advancement

Although the ancient civilization major is not preparation for graduate study in classics, it provides a sound basis for preparing individuals to teach at the secondary school and community college levels. It also provides a liberal arts and sciences foundation appropriate for further study in law and medicine. Some graduates go on to complete advanced work in library and information science, museum studies, archaeology, or business. A large proportion of its students pursue advanced degrees.

The Pomerantz Career Center offers multiple resources to help students find internships and jobs.

Academic Plans

Four-Year Graduation Plan

The following checkpoints list the minimum requirements students must complete by certain semesters in order to stay on the university's Four-Year Graduation Plan. Courses in the major are those required to complete the major; they may be offered by departments other than the major department.

Before the fifth semester begins: at least two courses in the major.

Before the seventh semester begins: at least six courses in the major and at least 90 s.h. earned toward the degree.

Before the eighth semester begins: at least eight courses in the major.

During the eighth semester: enrollment in all remaining coursework in the major, all remaining GE CLAS Core courses, and a sufficient number of semester hours to graduate.

Sample Plan of Study

Sample plans represent one way to complete a program of study. Actual course selection and sequence will vary and should be discussed with an academic advisor. For additional sample plans, see MyUI.

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Course	Title	Hours
Academic Career		
Any Semester		
GE CLAS Core: Sustainability ^a		
Hours		0
First Year		
Fall		
Major: ancient language and literature course ^{b, c}		3
RHET:1030	Rhetoric: Writing and or ENGL:1200 Communication or Interpreting Literature	3 - 4
GE CLAS Core: Natural Sciences with Lab ^d		4
GE CLAS Core: Values and Society ^d		3
CSI:1600	Success at Iowa	1
Hours		14-15
Spring		
Major: additional/reception course ^{c, e}		3
ENGL:1200	Interpreting Literature or RHET:1030 or Rhetoric: Writing and Communication	3 - 4
GE CLAS Core: Understanding Cultural Perspectives ^d		3
GE CLAS Core: Quantitative or Formal Reasoning ^d		4
Elective course ^f		2
Hours		15-16
Second Year		
Fall		
Major: ancient history and society course ^{b, c}		3
GE CLAS Core: Natural Sciences without Lab ^d		3
GE CLAS Core: Social Sciences ^d		3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages First Level Proficiency or elective course ^g		4 - 5
Elective course ^f		3
Hours		16-17
Spring		
Major: additional/reception course ^{c, e}		3
GE CLAS Core: Historical Perspectives ^d		3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level Proficiency or elective course ^g		4 - 5
Elective course ^f		3
Elective course ^f		3
Hours		16-17
Third Year		
Fall		
Major: ancient art and archaeology course ^{b, c}		3
Major: additional/reception course ^{c, e}		3
GE CLAS Core: Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts ^d		3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Third Level Proficiency or elective course ^g		4 - 5
Elective course ^f		3
Hours		16-17
Spring		
Major: ancient philosophy and religion course ^{b, c}		3
Major: additional/reception course ^{c, e}		3
GE CLAS Core: International and Global Issues ^d		3

GE CLAS Core: World Languages Fourth Level Proficiency or elective course ^g	4 - 5
Elective course ^f	3
Hours	16-17
Fourth Year	
Fall	
Major: additional/reception course ^{c, e}	3
Elective course ^f	3
Elective course ^f	3
Elective course ^f	3
Elective course ^f	3
Hours	15
Spring	
CLSA:3982 Graduation Portfolio ^h	0
Major: additional/reception course ^{c, e}	3
Elective course ^f	3
Elective course ^f	3
Elective course ^f	3
Elective course ^f	3
Degree Application: apply on MyUI before deadline (typically in February for spring, September for fall) ⁱ	
Hours	15
Total Hours	123-129

Formal approval of the portfolio is required for graduation. Consult the undergraduate advisor for details.

i Please see Academic Calendar, on Office of the Registrar website, for current degree application deadlines. Students should apply for a degree for the session in which all requirements will be met. For any questions on appropriate timing, contact your academic advisor or Degree Services.

a Sustainability must be completed by choosing a course that has been approved for Sustainability AND for one of these General Education areas: Natural Sciences; Quantitative or Formal Reasoning; Social Sciences; Historical Perspectives; International and Global Issues; Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts; or Values and Society.

b See General Catalog for list of approved courses

c Students must earn at least 9 s.h. in advanced courses, which may include English courses numbered 3000 or above, or Greek, Latin, and/or Hebrew courses numbered 2000 and above.

d GE CLAS Core courses may be completed in any order unless used as a prerequisite for another course. Students should consult with an advisor about the best sequencing of courses.

e The major requires six additional courses from an approved list or from any of the required subject areas. See General Catalog for list of approved courses or contact advisor for more information.

f Students may use elective courses to earn credit towards the total s.h. required for graduation or to complete a double major, minors, or certificates.

g Students who have completed four levels of a single language or two levels of two different languages in high school or college have satisfied the GE CLAS Core World Languages requirement. Students who have completed three levels of a single language may complete a fourth-level course in the same language or may choose an approved World Language and Cultural Exploration course. Enrollment in world languages courses requires a placement exam, unless enrolling in a first-semester-level course. Contact your academic advisor or CLAS Undergraduate Programs Office with questions concerning the World Languages requirement.

h Students must maintain a portfolio that details their progress in attaining the objectives of their major. Students submit the portfolio to their undergraduate advisor by midterm of the semester in which they intend to graduate.