

Classics, PhD

The PhD program in classics is intended for students who wish to pursue original research in the wide-ranging field of classics—Greek, Latin, Semitic languages, ancient Mediterranean religions and mythology, Mediterranean archaeology, ancient philosophy, and classical literature from Homer to Plato to the Bible to the Church fathers. Students also are trained to teach languages and literature at the university level. Many students bring their advanced education to such careers as law, counseling, publishing, library science, grant writing, nonprofit organizations, and university administration.

Learning Outcomes

Students are expected to demonstrate many, if not all of the following:

- understanding of the vocabulary and grammar of the classical languages they have chosen to study (e.g., Greek, Latin, Hebrew, Aramaic, Syriac, Coptic) at an advanced level;
- broad knowledge of the ancient literature corresponding to their chosen languages of study;
- application of ancient concepts learned to modern problems;
- the ability to conduct original research in various subjects within the field of classics;
- the ability to conduct archaeological field research and teach it at the university level;
- facility with the writing skills necessary to publish articles and critical research volumes at the peer-review level, as well as popular articles in trade books, magazines, newspapers, and online publications; and
- facility with the public-speaking skills necessary to present research both in professional academic settings and in popular, public venues.