About the Bachelor of Classical Studies

Ancient Greece and Rome laid the foundations for European civilisation. Since the Renaissance, educated men and women have embraced the study of Greek and Latin so that they could read the great authors of antiquity in their own words. In the Bachelor of Classical Studies at ANU you will have the opportunity to read some of the world’s greatest literature and study the history and culture of two of the world’s most fascinating societies.

You will become familiar with individuals such as Achilles, Socrates, Cleopatra, Alexander the Great and Julius Caesar. You will be encouraged to study broadly across the field of classical antiquity, defined as the Greco-Roman world from the Aegean Bronze Age (3rd millennium BC) to the transition from late antiquity to the medieval period (800 AD). In seeking to understand the ancient world, the Bachelor of Classical Studies covers a broad range of disciplines including archaeology, anthropology, art history and linguistics.

You will have the opportunity to learn at least one of the classical languages (Ancient Greek or Latin) and can study ancient Greek and Roman history, literature, and culture. You will also have a wide range of electives to choose from to complement your studies.

Classical Studies students learn to:

> Identify key components and use the ancient sources to research the political, military and social history of Greek and Roman antiquity, and analyse major issues and controversies from this period.

> Demonstrate a working knowledge of either Ancient Greek or Latin (or both) and familiarity with some key examples of literature in that language.

> Understand the complexities and relevance of this period in history.
Classical Studies at ANU

ANU is ranked number one in Australia and number twelve in the world for humanities and the arts.¹ By choosing to study Classical Studies at ANU, you will receive a world-class education and an internationally recognised degree.

Classical Studies has been taught at ANU for over 50 years. In the Bachelor of Classical Studies you will benefit from a warm and supportive teaching environment, excellent library resources and a vibrant student culture.

ANU is also home to the Classics Museum. Spanning the Mediterranean and beyond, the collection features examples of ancient art and objects of daily life from Greece, the Roman world, Egypt and the Near East. Notable strengths of the collection include domestic items, artefacts related to literacy and funerary commemoration, and southern Italian pottery. The museum adds depth to the experience of studying Classical Studies at ANU.

Flexible double degree

The Bachelor of Classical Studies can be combined with degrees in Law, Business or Science as part of the ANU flexible double degree program. For a full list of degree combinations see anu.edu.au/study/study-options/flexible-double

Study overseas

Students in the Bachelor of Classical Studies have the opportunity to take part in overseas study courses. So far these courses have visited a large range of ancient sites in Greece, Turkey and southern Italy. This unique and invaluable experience allows you to visit archaeological sites and key museums while participating in an approved course counting towards your degree.

Career opportunities

In the Bachelor of Classical Studies you will gain a deep understanding of how languages work, the problems of interpreting historical evidence and the intellectual pleasure and joy available from literature and art. In the past, graduates of the Centre for Classical Studies have found employment in teaching, museums, government and public service, journalism, television production, research libraries and universities (as administrators and academics), among many other fields and sectors.

Further information

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Sarah
Bachelor of Classical Studies

Since high school I have had a passion for studying the ancient world. I came to ANU because of the excellent reputation of the Classics department and of the university as a whole. I was immediately impressed by the energy and quality of the lecturers, who are not only passionate about their subjects but are also very approachable. Importantly, students and lecturers can communicate at a one-on-one level, as the Centre for Classical Studies program is relatively small.

As part of the Bachelor of Classical Studies we have the opportunity to take part in overseas courses in Turkey, Greece and Italy. The intensive study tours of Greece and Italy that I participated in have significantly influenced my understanding of the ancient world. Most importantly, I have gained a tangible memory of many ancient sites.

It is clear from these tours that our very own Classics Museum rivals many overseas collections. It is an invaluable teaching resource and, as students, we have the privilege of being able to handle many of the artefacts on display.

I am in my final year of the Bachelor of Classical Studies and plan to undertake honours in Ancient History next year. This degree has taught me skills that go far beyond the study of the ancient world and there is no doubt that they will serve me well in the future.

¹ QS World University Rankings by Faculty 2016.