



Australian  
National  
University

# Classical Studies



Ranked

**#1**

ANU is ranked #1 in Australia and in the top 20 globally for 9 disciplines across humanities, arts and social sciences.

\*QS World University Rankings by Subject 2024

Classical Studies at The Australian National University (ANU) is the study of the society, culture, politics, religion, and literature of Ancient Greece and Rome and their reception and legacy in the modern world.

## Why study Classical Studies at ANU?

What is the best form of government? Is there such a thing as a just war? How should we remember problematic individuals? How do we cope with grief and loss? What kinds of machines are most useful to humans? What are the values we should teach our children? How do we model religious tolerance?

The Ancient Greeks and Romans struggled with these and many other fundamental questions about the human experience through their histories, plays, poems, speeches, letters, and artistic works.

Classical Studies at ANU places students at the heart of these conversations.

Our students join Thucydides and Aristophanes as they explore the devastating war between Athens and Sparta through Pericles' soaring funeral oration and a wickedly hilarious female sex-strike. They accompany Alexander the Great and Cleopatra on campaign and trace the rise and fall of democracies and republics. They explore many stories of innovation and creation from Greek potters to the machines of Hero of Alexandria and discover the language of love and longing in the poetry of Sappho and Catullus. And they learn how Romans crafted and manipulated political rhetoric to justify colonialism and imperialism, a legacy which still haunts our contemporary world.

## Career Opportunities

Classical Studies graduates have the ability to analyse, critique, and research history, literature, and culture. ANU Classics alumni have pursued

successful national and international careers as: parliamentary advisors and researchers; senior officers at NGOs and think-tanks; strategists in the philanthropy sector; historians and curators in libraries and museums; authors, editors and translators in the publishing sector; teachers of Ancient History and Latin; university academics, administrators, and researchers in the fields of Classics, Music, Political Science, and Linguistics.

## Classical Studies at ANU

ANU is ranked among the world's top universities, and has a strong international reputation in humanities, arts and social sciences.<sup>1</sup> The Centre for Classical Studies is one of the leading places to study Ancient Greece and Rome in Australasia. The Centre's internationally renowned staff have expertise in topics such as Greek and Roman science, religion, technology, music, poetry, drama, politics, environment, gender, material culture, and slavery extending from the 12<sup>th</sup> century BCE to the early Middle Ages (c. 500 CE). They also engage in research on museums and collection practices and the cultural legacy of Greece and Rome in the contemporary world.

You will benefit from a warm and supportive teaching environment, excellent library resources, including the Classics Centre's own collection of texts and dictionaries, and a vibrant student culture. Students receive hands-on training in the material culture of the Greek and Roman worlds in our Classics Museum, which features ancient art and objects illustrating daily life. The Centre for Classical Studies regularly hosts a distinguished array of international experts for seminars and workshops, connecting students with leading historians, literary scholars, and archaeologists from across the world.

## Study Program

Students may choose to study a major in Classical Studies within the Bachelor of Arts. Students may also combine the Bachelor of Arts degree with other degrees on offer at ANU through Flexible Double Degrees.

Classical Studies may be studied as a major (8 courses) or a minor (4 courses). Many of our students combine Classical Studies with majors in Ancient Greek or Latin (no prior knowledge necessary) or with majors in History, Archaeology, English, Philosophy, and Politics.

## Ancient History courses on offer include:

- Classical Mythology
- Rome: The Story of an Empire
- Faith and Belief in Ancient Greece and Rome
- The Muse and the Machine: The Arts, Technology, and Society in Graeco-Roman Antiquity
- Alexander the Great and the Hellenistic World: An Age of Transformation and Discovery



## Katherine

### Majors in Ancient History and Classics

I decided to go to ANU Open Day on a whim. At the time I was unsure of what I wanted to study, but by the end my first four UAC preferences were four different ANU degrees. Part of my reason for going was that I wanted to go to a university outside of Sydney and to move to another city.

I've been interested in history since the age of four – it was obvious that I was destined to study Classics. When I was in year twelve my favourite subject was ancient history as I've always held a deep fascination with ancient civilizations, especially the Greek and Roman Empires.

Classical Studies was a degree that focused solely on what I was interested in. In my degree I have done ancient history, Ancient Greek, Latin, as well as studying a variety of other subjects such as English, gender studies and archaeology. As part of my degree I'll be embarking on a trip to Turkey, which will go towards my Ancient History major. I am very excited about this trip!

- Democrats, Tyrants, and Emperors: The Art of Government in the Ancient Mediterranean
- Life, Love, and Loss in Ancient Greece and Rome
- Emperors, Pilgrims and Crusaders: The World of Byzantium

## Scholarships and Prizes

There are a number of scholarships available to current ANU students to help with the cost of your studies. Donors and benefactors, external organisations and the Australian Government fund many of the scholarships we offer. Visit the ANU scholarships page to find out more: [anu.edu.au/students/scholarships](https://anu.edu.au/students/scholarships)

## Further information

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 [anu.classics.ancient.history](https://anu.classics.ancient.history)

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