



The Examined Life The Jesuit tradition demands that students develop critical thinking above all else. Like Socrates, it demands that we walk through life not unexamined—but that we analyze and reflect before and after acting. This tradition of unshakeable discernment is but one way in which Loyola’s Department of Classical Studies meets and exceeds the developmental needs of its students. A degree in classical studies lays the foundation for further study or professional work in any field. Law and medicine particularly benefit from the critical and analytical skills imparted by the program, but our students leave with the ability to excel in fields ranging from marketing and film to politics and government. How could the study of ancient *anything* prepare you for the modern world? Read on.

Major Education

Classical studies is interdisciplinary by its very nature. Religion, history, literature, culture, art, language, politics—the study of ancient Greece and Rome includes all of these topics. It arms you with a context for the present. You become farsighted and big-picture-oriented because you become an expert in a culture that impacts all areas of society. Every creative field unavoidably alludes to these cultures and their works, and every professional field calls for the critical thinking of classical students.

“How,” Not “What”

In this program you will learn not simply to recite facts but to truly dissect them, form opinions, and present thoughtful analyses. You’ll learn to present facts and evidence not as isolated pieces but as parts of a whole. High intelligence boils down to pattern recognition. Tracing the influence of an ancient culture to modern day or translating the orations of that culture’s most intricate minds will train you to use that high-level processing in your decision-making every day.

Courses

Greek Mythology

The stories of the Greeks (and later of the Romans) have been told and retold for centuries, forming the background for countless works of art, literature, and film and even informing ideas in psychology and religion. Discover the myths that continue to captivate and inspire writers, artists, philosophers, and scientists.

Roman Art and Archaeology

Examine and explore the most important works of Roman art and architecture, from homes to sacred spaces to civic buildings. Trace the ways Augustus “found Rome a city of brick and left it a city of marble” and how the art of Rome helped its leaders forge an empire whose monuments and art continue to inspire today’s artists and architects.

Justice in Greek Literature

The concept of “social justice” begins in classical Greece. Learn how the Greeks answered questions about the relationship between the individual and society. Discussions of ancient and modern sources prepare you for the experience of holding an Athenian-style mock trial at the end of the term.

Roman Culture

Immerse yourself in the social, economic, and cultural institutions of ancient Rome. Read classic works of Latin literature in translation and explore the archaeological evidence and the historical context for a civilization that spanned centuries and continents and gave rise to many of the core principles of modern society.



Classical Studies students at excavation site on the island of Cyprus

Track Descriptions

Language Master a classical language; translate its greatest minds. In this track you sharpen your analytical framework, learn how things fit together in a system, and formulate answers to questions of meaning and context. Particularly helpful for those who wish to work in medicine, law, language, or literature.

Requires 37 credit hours of study: 18 credit hours of Greek or Latin; 18 credit hours in classical humanities, Greek, or Latin; 1 credit hour CLHU A480 Classical Humanities Capstone.

Classical Civilizations Explore classical civilizations; celebrate their influence. In this track you place our modern world and your opinions of it into a proper large-scale context. You develop the ability to foresee the implications of current events, and you enter every discussion with precedent. Particularly helpful for those who wish to work in politics, government, law, history, or philosophy.

Requires 31 credit hours of study: A 3-credit-hour course from each of the classical humanities (archaeology, history, literature, thought); 18 credit hours of classical humanities electives; 1 credit hour CLHU A480 Classical Humanities Capstone.

Student Successes

Rebecca McMillian '15

Classical Civilizations
Graduate student at LSU in library science

As someone who “tried on” a few majors, the classics program was a perfect fit for me because it touched on all of the things I was interested in (art, literature, history, philosophy) as well as things I had never been exposed to (archaeology, Greek, and Latin). The professors are magnificent, have an awesome sense of humor, and truly go above and beyond to make sure that you succeed. I would urge everyone to take at least one classics class. You won’t regret it.

Erica Saccucci-Price '03

Classical Studies
Adjunct instructor at DePaul University
Department of Religious Studies

My time in the classical studies department at Loyola was one of the most fun, most challenging, and most rewarding experiences of my life. I met lifelong friends there who shared similar loves and interests in the classical Mediterranean, and I met my husband, who is also a classical studies alumnus. Our classes were difficult, but we had professors who cared about our achievements, goals, and abilities. It was not about earning a grade; it was about truly learning how to read, write, and understand classical cultures and all of their beautiful complexities.

For more success stories visit
cas.loyno.edu/classical-studies/achievements



Classical studies student Rebecca McMillian

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