Classical Studies Minor

The Trireme Olympias, a modern reconstruction of the Greek warship

Course Offerings
Spring 2016
Art History 381 – Classical Mythology In Art - SI  
Dr. Downing  
TUTH 11:00-12:15  
Prerequisites: ARTH100 or ARTH 101 or ARTH102 or Permissions of instructor, Counts towards Classical Studies Minor.  
This course will study the stories from ancient Greek mythology and how they are represented in art from ancient times through the present. The course is arranged thematically; each theme will be analyzed in its original form (as far as can be determined) and then representations of that theme in art will be discussed, moving chronologically up to the present. Emphasis will be placed on the role of the myth in each society, and its contributions to the art of the time.

GREK 101 – Introduction To Classical Greek  
Dr. Downing  
MWF 10:00-10:50  
Counts toward Classical Studies Minor  
An introduction to the Classical Greek language. Intended for beginning students.

HIST 480 – Seminar: Ancient Mediterranean WI  
Dr. Stannish  
TH 6:00-8:30  
Junior Standing. History Majors. Pre-requisites HIST321 and HIST322 or HIST323 or HIST326 or HIST462 or HIST463 or permission of instructor. Counts towards Classical Studies Minor.  
Capstone course for the History Major. Students design and conduct a significant research project and draft a significant research paper on a topic in Mediterranean history between 1500 BC and AD 500.
Latin 101 – Elementary College Latin 1
Dr. Hudak  MWF 12:00-12:50
Counts toward Classical Studies Minor.

Students will learn to read classical Latin passages. The selections will be a medium by which historical events and social aspects of the period can be examined. The course will introduce the basics of Latin grammar and its influence on the development of other languages. Students will come to appreciate how Latin is ‘alive and well’ in the extensive etymological roots of English vocabulary.

Latin 102 – Elementary College Latin 2
Dr. Hudak  MWF – 10:00-10:50
Prerequisite: Latin 101 or
Counts toward Classical Studies Minor

This course will build upon the bases of the Latin language learned in Latin 101 (or equivalent) and introduce further grammatical constructions and other syntactical constructions necessary for developing a reading knowledge of Latin. The cultural content will focus on Britain and Alexandria during the first century AD during the Pax Romana. Students will examine, through the readings with a rural Romano-British background and a cosmopolitan Alexandrian setting, the various provincial aspects of Roman life of both the conquered and the conquerors in various social and economic positions. Relevant study of some archeology, epigraphy, and the historical events from this time period will be incorporated, as well as other influences of the Romans and the Latin language upon our cultural heritage.

PHIL 322 – Ancient Philosophy PI, WC
Dr. Curry  MWF 12:00-12:50
Pre-requisites: one course in Philosophy or permission of instructor.
Required for Classical Studies Minor

In this class students will critically approach the history of ancient philosophy from its origins in mytho-poetical and Homeric thought up to its absorption into the philosophical theology of the Church Fathers. In examining the first philosophers, the so-called “Pre-Socratics”, we will discuss the origins of scientific and metaphysical theorizing, and examine the views of the first advocates of moral relativism and skepticism. The majority of the semester will be spent on the works of Plato and Aristotle. We will close the course with a brief look at the Hellenistic schools and Neo-Platonism. The most basic prerequisite for this course is a willingness to closely read and think about some difficult texts.
The minor in Classical Studies is an interdisciplinary program of studies intended to encourage undergraduates in various disciplines to come to an integrated awareness of the ancient cultures of Greece, Rome, and the Mediterranean, and of the classical tradition that underlies much of modern civilization. Courses are offered in six different departments, from across the School of Arts and Sciences.

For more information, or to declare the minor, contact Steven Stannish, Department of History (stannism@potsdam.edu; x2189) or David Curry, Department of Philosophy (currydc@potsdam.edu; 2021).

The minor requires 18 hours of course work. Many courses satisfy General Education requirements. No more than two courses may be counted towards any other major or minor program.

**Required Courses**

- **ANTA 352/ARTH 385**  
  & Archaeology of the Classical World or
  
- **ARTH 310 and ARTH 311** (Prereq: ARTH 100, 101 or 102 or permission of the instructor)

- **LITR 371** Classical Heritage (Prereq: FW or equivalent) (3)

- **PHIL 322** History of Ancient Philosophy (3)

- **LATN 101** Introduction to Latin or

- **GREK 101** Introduction to Classical Greek* (3)

- **HIST 321** Ancient Greece & Rome (3)

**Total required hours**  
15 - 18

**Electives:** (all 3 hour courses)

- **ARTH 310** Greek Art & Architecture (Prereq: ARTH 100, 101 or 102 or permission of the instructor)

- **ARTH 311** Roman Art & Architecture (Prereq: ARTH 100, 101 or 102 or permission of the instructor)

- **ARTH 351** Late Antique Art (Prereq: ARTH 100, 101 or 102 or permission of the instructor)

- **ARTH 381** Classical Mythology in Art (Prereq: ARTH 100, 101 or 102 or permission of the instructor)

- **ARTH 451** Ancient Painting (Prereq: ARTH 100, 101 or 102 or permission of the instructor)

- **DRAM 312** History of Theatre I

- **HIST 322** Ancient Middle East

- **HIST 323** Middle East from Alexander to Islam

- **HIST 326** Egypt in Late Antiquity

- **HIST 462** The Hero in Classical Antiquity

- **HIST 463** Ancient Magic

- **LITR 372** Biblical Heritage (Prereq: FW or equivalent)

- **PHIL 387** Selected Philosophers (when appropriate) (Prereq: Determined by instructor)
*The language requirement for the Classical Studies Minor (LATN 101 or GREK 101) will be considered completed if the student has had two or more years of Greek or of Latin in High School. This requirement is distinct from the General Education Modern Language requirement.

**Affiliated Faculty:**
Gunnar Anderson, Modern Languages
David Curry, Philosophy
Christine Doran, English
Caroline Downing, Art
Bryan Hudak, Modern Languages
Jay Pecora, Drama
Steven Stannish, History
Alan Steinberg, English