

Career

Paths

CLASSICAL STUDIES

Classical Studies introduces the student to the languages and civilizations of ancient Greece and Rome. It is unique in offering students knowledge of the origins of political, social, and cultural traditions of the West (Europe, North and Latin America), and in giving them a context for understanding contemporary Western society and culture. Classical Studies is an interdisciplinary major useful for cultivating verbal, written, and logical reasoning skills and for broadening one's world view. Students within these majors enter into industries relating to education, the arts, government, nonprofit, communications, business, law, medicine.

You may choose to study Classical Studies because you enjoy the subject but wish to pursue careers requiring "any major" associated with the industries listed above. In this scenario, it is critical to develop skills relevant to targeted fields through internships, part-time or summer jobs, or volunteer experiences.

Classical Studies majors are excellent candidates for a number of graduate school options because of their broad liberal arts background as well as specific interests that may set them apart from other students. For those wishing to pursue graduate education, maintain a high GPA, establish relationships with faculty to secure strong recommendations, and gain experience through volunteer, work, or research opportunities. Research areas of interest for specific program requirements.

Education

Example Career Paths: Teaching | Research | Administration | Student affairs | Library and information sciences | English as a second language instruction

Potential Employers: Universities and colleges | Elementary and secondary schools, public and private | Professional language schools

Professional Associations: [National Classics Honor Society](#)

The Arts

Example Career Paths: Administration/Management | Archival work | Education | Research | Translation | Museum work (e.g., curatorship, conservation, restoration) | Design (e.g., period, exhibit, costume, set) | Development/Fundraising | Appraisal

Potential Employers: Museums (e.g., public, private, university) | Art galleries | Antique dealerships | Art councils | Historical societies and sites | Archives | Libraries | Public research agencies | Private foundations | Theatrical companies

Professional Associations: [American Classical League](#) | [American Philological Association](#) | [American Philosophical Association](#) | [Archaeological Institute of America](#) | [Association of Ancient Historians](#) | [Classical Association of the Middle West and South](#)

Government

Example Career Paths: Administration | Research | Policy analysis | Lobbying | Legislative services | Program management | Cultural resource management | Translation/Interpreting | Foreign service | Library and information sciences

Potential Employers: Federal government | State and local government | Public archives | Libraries

Professional Associations: [Archaeological Institute of America](#) | [Society for Classical Studies](#) | [American Classical League](#)

Nonprofit

Example Career Paths: Administration | Research | Grant writing | Development/Fundraising | Programming | Volunteer coordination

Potential Employers: Nonprofit organizations | Social service organizations | Churches and religiously affiliated groups

Professional Associations: [Archaeological Institute of America](#) | [Institute for Classical Archaeology](#)

Communications

Example Career Paths: Technical writing | Editing | Copywriting | Journalism | Research | Translation

Potential Employers: Publishers | Magazines | Newspapers | TV stations | Film companies | Internet sites | Advertising agencies

Professional Associations: [American Translators' Association](#) | [National Committee for Latin and Greek](#)

Business/Industry

Example Career Paths: Customer service | Management | Sales | Human resources | Public relations | Importing and exporting | Finance | Consulting | Technical writing | Insurance underwriting and claims management

Potential Employers: Business corporations in various industries

Professional Associations: [American Classical League](#) | [Classical Association of the Middle West and South](#)

Law

Example Career Paths: Law assistance | Prosecution | Defense | Contractual | Corporate | Nonprofit or public interest | Government | Mediation | Lobbying

Potential Employers: Law firms | Federal, state and local government | Corporations | Public interest organizations | Private practice | Colleges and universities

Professional Associations: [American Society of Comparative Law](#)

Medicine

Example Career Paths: Medicine | Dentistry | Optometry | Podiatry | Pharmacy | Allied health (e.g., occupational therapy, physical therapy, etc.)

Potential Employers: Hospitals | Medical centers and clinics | Nursing homes | Private practice | Armed services | Government agencies

Professional Associations: [Society for Ancient Medicine and Pharmacy](#) | [American Association for the History of Medicine](#)

Preparing for your Career

- Engage in internships, part-time jobs, or volunteer opportunities with organizations and employers where you can apply your knowledge of Classics or utilize your transferable skills of attention to detail, organization, etc.
- Pair an interest in Classical Studies with a skill, such as writing or communication to be able to write about topics associated with Classics, teach Classics in a variety of settings (schools, museums, etc.).
- Engage with networking groups or professional organizations that are focused in promoting the development and integrity of classics.
- Couple your coursework in Classical Studies with another major or minor to have this major or minor serve as your application of your knowledge of Classical Studies.
- Develop close connections with faculty in your department/major to have strong recommendations when applying to additional programs for education.
- Apply your knowledge in a variety of settings, government, nonprofit, the arts, museums/libraries, educational settings, etc.
- Study and/or travel abroad to contribute to your understanding of the field.
- Pursue graduate education in classics for increased opportunities.
- Plan to specialize in one area such as Latin and Greek, classical literature, classical archaeology or classical civilization.
- A classics major serves as good preparation for graduate study in other analytical subjects such as law, anthropology, medieval studies, philosophy, history, English, etc.

This resource was adapted from What Can I Do With My Major.

For more, visit <https://web.uri.edu/career/wcidwmm/>

WCIDWMM

What Can I Do With This Major? features 100 major profiles with information on common career paths, types of employers that hire in the field, and strategies to maximize opportunities. Scroll to the...

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