Mission Statement

Our program offers students the opportunity to engage with the diverse peoples and cultures of the ancient Mediterranean world. This engagement encourages students to reflect upon the past in order to bridge time and distance in pursuit of answers to fundamental questions about what it means to be human. Students grapple with the origins of urban life; ancient Mediterranean systems of belief and myth; ancient cosmology; the meaning of the major monuments, literature, and artifacts from the Mediterranean region; Roman law; the lives of women in Antiquity; ancient Greek and Latin languages, and much more. This breadth of courses fosters intellectual curiosity and allows students to consider multiple viewpoints, understand different methodologies, and engage in creative inquiry across disciplines.

The study of the ancient Mediterranean world at UNC Greensboro has been a foundational discipline since the college first opened its doors in 1891, when all students studied Greek and Roman history, and three years of Latin were required for graduation. While Classical Studies has been part of UNC Greensboro’s curriculum for over 125 years, the discipline, like the university, has grown and expanded and changed. Students in Classical Studies now engage with a vast and interconnected cultural diversity that spanned the entire ancient Mediterranean world, a diversity which in many ways reflects the diversity of the student body at UNC Greensboro.

About

The Department of Classical Studies provides a comprehensive approach to the study of the ancient Greek and Roman world. The Department believes that students should have a solid foundation in the language, history, and culture of Greek and Roman civilization. To this end, the program is designed to ensure that all students gain proficiency in the Greek or Latin language, as well as a broad understanding of Classical literature in its cultural and historical context, the influence of Graeco-Roman civilization on the conceptions and values of Western civilization, and the methods of critical inquiry which are central to the discipline of Classical Studies.

The Department offers a wide variety of courses in English on mythology, archaeology, literature and culture, as well as courses in ancient Greek and Latin at all levels. Courses with a CCI prefix require no knowledge of either language; GRK courses require reading of texts in Greek and LAT courses require reading of texts in Latin.

Students also have an opportunity in the summer to visit Athens, Rome, and other parts of the Classical world, to participate in archaeological excavation, and to earn semester hours of credit through the following or through Study Abroad Programs.

Professor
Joanne M. Murphy

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