Greek

See also Ancient History page 56, Classical Studies page 70, Classics page 72

Degree options in the Faculty of Arts

MA (Single Honours Degrees)
Classics
Greek

MA (Joint Honours Degrees)
Greek and one of:
Ancient History
Art History
Biblical Studies
Classical Studies
Comparative Literature
English
French
Hebrew
Modern History
Persian
Philosophy
Social Anthropology
Spanish

Greek and two Modern Languages
Any combination of French, German, Italian, Spanish is available, see page 130.

Features

* Extensive language support for ex-beginners from our full-time senior language tutor continues into second year and Honours.
* The study of literature and language is carefully integrated and balanced throughout the programme, and set within a framework of wider cultural understanding.
* An extensive range of major authors and literary genres is available.
* Teaching in small groups assures that you get close attention and individual help.
* The School of Classics was rated first in Scotland and second in the UK in the Research Excellence Framework 2014.

Facilities and resources

Classics is housed in Swallowgate, an attractive building which overlooks the sea and is only a few yards away from the University Library and the main quadrangle. There are computing facilities in the building, seminar rooms and a well-stocked class library.

What will I study?

For all students, beginners and non-beginners, first and second year offer a carefully integrated package of complementary work on both literature and language, while the two years of Honours give you the opportunity to choose from a range of author/genre-based courses, together with linguistic options.

Highlights include: Homeric epic (the foundational works of European literature), lyric poetry, the emotionally powerful plays of Greek tragedy, Attic comedy (both Aristophanes and Menander), Greek historiography (especially Herodotus and Thucydides), Greek Philosophy (especially Plato’s Socratic dialogues), Greek rhetoric (speeches written for important political debates and for forensic trials), the pastoral poetry of Theocritus, and a series of still-undervalued Greek novels, dialogues and speeches written under the Roman Empire.

Between them, these texts display a remarkable range of both linguistic and imaginative fertility. They continue to fascinate modern writers, artists and readers. Studying ancient Greek provides an opportunity to get closer to the richness of this body of writing and to gain insights into the world from which it emerged.

Subject enquiries

E: classics@st-andrews.ac.uk
Indicative programme information

First Year (2 x 20-credit modules required)
We offer two streams of study, in both of which students read a wide range of Greek texts. For beginners and those who have studied a little Greek, we offer specifically designed stand-alone modules covering Greek language and literature from scratch. For those who have studied Greek at a higher level, we offer more advanced study in language and literature in integrated modules working with literary texts (philosophy, comedy, pastoral poetry and the ancient novel) and linguistic/translation exercises.

Second Year (2 x 20-credit modules required)
In second year, ex-beginners and more advanced students are brought together. The modules extend and refine your knowledge of Greek literature and its background, covering both prose and poetry from the Archaic to the Imperial period, while continuing to incorporate progressive work on the Greek language. By the end of second year, the ex-beginners have sufficient background to enter the Honours programme along with those who started with more advanced knowledge. If you take 1000-level Greek in your second year, but have taken Latin in your first two years, you can take special modules in your third year and still complete an Honours degree in Greek.

Honours – Third and Fourth Years
You choose further modules for more advanced study of literature and language over the two Honours years. Whether you choose Single or Joint Honours, we have an extensive range of modules for you to choose from. We periodically change our Honours offerings to reflect exciting new research trends and findings but current modules available in 2015-2016 include:

- Greeks on Education
- Greeks and Barbarians
- Greek Literature in the Roman Empire
- Imagining the Symposium
- Thucydidès – ‘Histories’
- Lies, History and Ideology
- Greek Tragedy
- Violence in Early Greek Poetry
- Greek Rhetoric and its Representation
- Greek Prose Composition

Honours modules in the School carry 30 credits, so you study two modules each semester in Honours. Single Honours students write a dissertation worth 30 credits in their fourth year.

Study abroad
You may apply to the University’s St Andrews Abroad programme. See page 46.

In the academic year 2016-2017, students in the School of Classics may apply to spend one or two semesters at the University of Leiden as part of our Erasmus+ exchange.

For options available during your intended period of study, see: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/studyabroad/outgoingstudents

For further information about eligibility, the application and selection process, and costs involved, please see: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/studyabroad

Typical class sizes and teaching information

First Year: lectures 20 - 30, tutorials 10 - 15
Second Year: 10 - 30 with smaller groups for the weekly language support class
Honours: seminars 10 - 20

Teaching in first and second year is conducted in small groups for both set-text work and language classes. A similar pattern is maintained, at a higher level of work, in the seminars and tutorials of Honours courses.

Typical methods of assessment
Assessment throughout the degree is generally 50% assessed coursework and 50% by examination, taken at the end of the semester. The final class of degree is based on marks awarded over the last two years.

All Single Honours students write a dissertation in their fourth year and this allows them to specialise in an area of their own key interest.

Final year students may obtain teaching experience and mentoring from teachers in local secondary schools.

Careers

Traditional Classical Greek courses have provided an entry to a wide range of careers and positions since employers have placed a premium on the combination of intellectual flexibility and rigour of Greek graduates.

Students graduating with Classical Greek degrees typically do well in the graduate employment market. Graduate destinations include: financial services, the law, marketing and management, civil and armed services, journalism, museums, galleries, and libraries, teaching and further research and study. For more information: http://bit.ly/sta-classics-careers

See also page 36 for details of the University’s Careers Centre.

“My time at St Andrews has been the best of my life and the School of Classics has been integral to my enjoyment of university life. The School is not the largest in the University, allowing for an intimate atmosphere where you can truly get to know your professors; the modules are all fascinating and taught with such enthusiasm that it is impossible not to become immersed in the classical world. I have particularly enjoyed having the opportunity to study Greek for beginners and from this I have gained enough confidence to study it at Honours level alongside my Latin.”

Emily (Bristol, Avon, England)