

# Classics

Undergraduate programme  
and course information

SEPTEMBER 2020  
ENTRY

[www.ed.ac.uk/history-classics-archaeology](http://www.ed.ac.uk/history-classics-archaeology)



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH  
School of History, Classics  
and Archaeology



Welcome to the Department of Classics at Edinburgh! We are part of the larger School of History, Classics and Archaeology, and based in the Old Medical School at the heart of the University and the city.

What is distinct about Classics at Edinburgh?

We are one of the largest departments of Classics in the United Kingdom, and a leading European centre for the subject. Our staff research and teach across the whole range of the discipline: Greek and Latin language, literature, and thought; Greek and Roman art and archaeology; ancient history. We also extend the boundaries of Classics chronologically, with a speciality in the Greek and Latin-speaking cultures that succeeded the Roman empire.

And we teach you these subjects passionately, and in serious ways: our Classical archaeologists run excavations in the summer (recently in Italy, Turkey and Georgia) which many of our students participate in; Greek and Latin students can do honours courses in which they work first-hand with manuscripts. The Scottish four-year degree makes it possible for you to spend your whole third year abroad, and gives students the opportunity to produce remarkably mature work by the end of the fourth year.

We offer a wide range of degrees allowing you take the combination that suits you; the flexibility of the Scottish system in the first two years means that there is room to experiment; and students often switch degrees within Classics.

If you have never learned an ancient language before, you can still give it a try; even if you think your interests are mainly in literature, you can still try art and archaeology. Equally, you can take outside subjects a long way from Classics for the first two years, whether subjects you enjoyed at school or new topics you were always curious about.

The Classics Department is based in the School of History, Classics, and Archaeology, providing a broader intellectual and social environment overlapping with the close-knit Classics community. My teaching colleagues in Classics are drawn not only from the UK but from Ireland, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Italy, Canada, and the USA; the student body, both in Classics and the wider School, is international too. This means that there is always a diversity of perspectives and traditions to draw on. We gain a lot from our physical and cultural setting in Edinburgh's capital city, and the University has a huge selection of events and activities.

In Classics, we are passionate about bringing you to a high level in whatever subject you specialise in. We are proud of our students who continue with their Classics studies to a still higher level; but we are equally proud of those of our alumni (the majority) who use the analytical skills they have developed to go on to successful and fulfilling careers elsewhere, in law, journalism, finance, teaching, museums, the civil service, publishing and many fields besides.

#### Dr Lucy Grig

Senior Lecturer and Head of Classics

#### Coronavirus update - April 2020

We intend to begin the 2020-21 academic year as usual in September. This brochure reflects these intentions. We will let you know of any changes, and confirm start dates in our pre-arrival communications.

## A flexible four-year degree

Edinburgh offers a four-year honours degree, which gives you the benefit of developing a breadth as well as depth of knowledge. In your first two years you can study subjects outside your core discipline, before specialising in your third and fourth years.

Among the advantages of the four-year degree are:

- **Breadth of study.** The flexible nature of our degrees enables you to expand your academic range by studying subjects outside your major discipline during the first two years. Year 1 Classics students have recently taken courses in subjects as varied as archaeology, philosophy, history and politics.
- **Third year abroad.** An extensive network of reciprocal exchanges with major international universities gives you the chance to study overseas for an entire year, and still spend a full three years in Edinburgh.
- **Final-year dissertation.** A feature of the fourth year is a dissertation undertaken by all students. This piece of original research, of up to 14,000 words, represents the culmination of your undergraduate career and the demonstration of your abilities as an independent scholar.
- **MA (Hons).** The added experience and intellectual depth that you will gain over the course of the four-year honours undergraduate degree is widely recognised and greatly valued by employers.



# Study abroad

We offer undergraduate students the opportunity to undertake a wide variety of international experiences. Living and studying abroad can broaden your horizons, transform your academic perspective, and help you to get the very most from your undergraduate career. The four-year degree offers the opportunity to study abroad even for non-language learners.

We have partnerships with a large number of prestigious universities across Europe, North and South America and Australasia from which you can apply.

The University of Edinburgh is currently participating in the Erasmus programme which enables students to access funding for a period of study or work abroad in Europe. The UK's participation in Erasmus beyond 2021 will depend on negotiations between the EU and the UK. The University of Edinburgh will continue to offer students opportunities to study abroad in Europe regardless of the outcome of these negotiations but there may be a change to currently available exchange destinations and number of exchange places available if the UK is no longer part of Erasmus. As these are on-going negotiations we will regularly update our webpages on developments.

For degree programmes starting in 2020 that have a compulsory period of study or work abroad in Europe - such as Modern European Languages - the University will guarantee funding equivalent to current Erasmus grants, with the exception of students studying in Switzerland.

[www.ed.ac.uk/global/go-abroad](http://www.ed.ac.uk/global/go-abroad)



# What you'll study

With a distinguished tradition that stretches back more than four centuries, Classics at Edinburgh offers one of the widest choices of subjects and approaches of any university in the UK.



## Our teaching

Classics courses are taught through lectures, seminars and tutorials.

Year 1 and 2 courses are popular with outside students and numbers can be as high as 200 (year 1) and 80 (year 2). Greek and Latin, both for beginners and advanced students, normally have 20-40 students in the class. Year 1 and 2 lectures are supplemented by tutorials in groups of about 12. In years 3 and 4, classes normally have about 15-20 students and up to 25 for popular courses. In most courses, coursework is combined with a formal examination. Exams are held at the end of each semester in years 1 and 2, and usually at the end of the year in years 3 and 4.

All final-year students write a dissertation on a topic of their choice; they work on this independently, with a certain amount of one-to-one supervision. For many students, the dissertation is the most personally fulfilling part of their programme.

## Overseas study trips\*

Throughout your degree, you'll also have the opportunity to apply for study trips or excavations abroad.

From 2020 we are introducing a new course in degrees involving Classical Archaeology, in which students can gain experience in the summer in excavation or museum work. But you can also get involved in fieldwork without formal study of Classical Archaeology. In the recent past, for example, our students have participated in overseas excavations in Italy, Georgia and Macedonia. We have some funding available to support students to undertake fieldwork during their vacation periods.

We also organise study trips overseas – the two most recent trips were to Pompeii and Ravenna.

\*Please note that these opportunities will be subject to availability and are likely to have extra costs.

**In Classics we teach in five different areas of study: Latin, Greek, Ancient History, Classical Archaeology, and Classical Literature in Translation. Most students in Classics do a combination of these subjects across various degree programmes; it is also possible to take a joint degree where you combine an outside subject with one subject (or a combination) from Classics.**

## Latin and Greek

Latin was the language of the most powerful and durable empire of the classical world, and remained the principal language of scholarship, record, and literature in western Europe for more than 1,000 years. In studying Latin you'll receive a robust training in the language to a high level and read a broad selection of works of Latin literature in the original, including texts at the heart of the western canon such as Virgil and Cicero, but with the option to study a wide range of literary texts including from Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages.

Detailed linguistic work is essential, but we also study Latin texts to understand their historical, philosophical or religious context. For those taking the language as a beginner, we aim to get you reading original texts like Ovid's *Metamorphoses* by the second half of the first year, and to integrate you with those who have previously taken the language. The Scottish MA degree means that beginners can reach the highest standards by the end of four years.

Studying Ancient Greek enables you to read great literature and foundational works of philosophy in the original. As with Latin, we have a strong focus on robust linguistic training and on reading central texts such as Homer, Sophocles and Plato; but also offer the opportunity to study less well-known works such as Greek epics and novels of the Roman empire. Every year a good number of students

arrive with an existing knowledge of Greek, but most have not had the opportunity before, and our first year beginners' Greek course is both intensive and highly successful: students read Lysias and Euripides in the second semester and the ex-beginners and experienced students come together over the second year. By the fourth year it is hard to tell the difference between the two cohorts.

In both Latin and Greek we have specialists in palaeography and manuscript studies, and courses focused on these topics are often available to third and fourth year students.

The commonest – indeed the classic – way to study Latin and Greek is together in *MA Classics*. It is also possible to concentrate on just one ancient language and its literature in *MA Greek Studies* or *MA Latin Studies*, to study one of the languages as part of the multidisciplinary *MA Classical Studies*, or to take a degree combining one of the languages with Ancient History or Classical Archaeology, or to take a language as the central pathway in a joint degree (see page 9). It is also possible and beneficial for those doing e.g. *MA Ancient History* to take a language as an outside course for a while in year 1 or year 2.

### Ancient History

In the study of Ancient History, religious, social, economic, political and cultural history all come into play. You will become familiar with a wide range of sources, from great historical writers such as Herodotus and Tacitus to inscriptions and papyri, and the results of archaeological excavation.

At Edinburgh, you will have the opportunity to study not only the Greeks and Romans but also other ancient civilisations that came into contact with them like Egypt or Judaea, as well as the Byzantine empire that succeeded the Roman empire in the east. Studying Ancient History will thus enable you to contextualise Graeco-Roman history within its wider Mediterranean context.

Ancient History can be your sole degree subject (*MA Ancient History*), or can be taken in combination with one or more of our other areas of study. Ancient History courses are part of *MA Classical Studies*, for example, and can be taken as a pathway in our joint degrees (see page 9). The *MA Classical Archaeology and Ancient History* is a popular programme, which will challenge you to confront the sometimes rather divergent pictures of the classical world given by the different bodies of evidence – textual and material – and is thus both intellectually demanding and intrinsically interesting.

Alternatively you may wish to combine Ancient History with the study of an ancient language in our *MA Ancient History and Greek* or *MA Ancient History and Latin*. The *MA Ancient and Medieval History* benefits from Edinburgh's outstanding coverage of Late Antiquity, Byzantium, and the early western Middle Ages. It is also possible to take an interdisciplinary programme in *MA Archaeology and Ancient History*, which will combine your historical studies with the study of science-based archaeology, of animal and human bones, and of digital applications.

### Classical Art and Archaeology

The study of Classical Art and Archaeology entails a focus on the material culture of classical civilisations, with a concentration on Greece and the Roman Empire. The art, artefacts and archaeological sites surviving from the ancient world will form the basis of your studies. You will learn how to interpret scanty but complex material evidence to understand peoples who are chronologically remote but highly significant to the modern world. You will gain an understanding of Graeco-Roman society within its geographical context and will analyse and evaluate a wide range of material evidence. In addition to the study of the Greek and Roman civilisations

from the Bronze Age to Late Antiquity and Byzantium, you will have the opportunity to study other ancient peoples and civilisations such as the Etruscans, the Egyptians and the Carthaginians.

If you wish to make this area of study a particular focus of your degree, the *MA Classical Archaeology and Ancient History* will allow you to combine this with your ancient historical studies, or it can be combined in a degree with Latin or Greek. But Classical Archaeology courses are available as part of many other degrees, including *MA Classical Studies* and *MA Ancient Mediterranean Civilisations*, and as a pathway including many of our joint honours degrees (see adjacent). Whatever your degree, there's a possibility of going on archaeological fieldwork projects led by Edinburgh staff, and we are introducing a core course for students on degrees where Classical Archaeology is compulsory that will involve fieldwork, with financial support available.

### Classical Literature in Translation

Our wide-ranging *MA Classical Studies* requires some study of classical literature in translation along with other subjects within the Classics discipline. You will read extensively to become familiar with some of the major authors from Greek and Roman antiquity. Through the study of ancient genres like epic, tragedy, comedy and philosophy, you will gain a broad understanding of ancient literature that will allow you to engage with a vast range of texts and the civilisations that produced them.

Classical Literature options are offered widely across our degrees. It is common for students to take Classical Literature courses in order to

broaden their knowledge of ancient literature, particularly in joint honours degrees. Classical Literature can also be a pathway on our joint honours degrees.

### Joint honours degrees

It is possible to study Classics alongside a range of other subjects; working in two different disciplines can be highly stimulating and students often find that they feed into each other in unexpected ways.

Our joint degrees with other subjects fall into two main groups. In some, the area of Classics that you study is fixed (for example Ancient History in *MA Ancient and Medieval History*, *MA Archaeology and Ancient History*; Greek in *MA Arabic and Greek*, *MA Philosophy and Greek*, and *MA Classics and Linguistics/English Language*). However, in most cases you choose a pathway, which can be one of Greek, Latin, Ancient History, Classical Art and Archaeology, and Classical Literature in Translation, or alternatively a combination of the non-linguistic options: this is the case for *MA Divinity and Classics*, *MA History and Classics*, *MA English/Scottish Literature and Classics*, and the various degrees in modern European languages and Classics (*French, German, Italian, Russian Studies, Scandinavian Studies, Spanish*).

# Courses available to study in Classics

We are one of the outstanding centres of classical learning in the United Kingdom. Our courses reflect the expertise of our staff and demonstrate the breadth and flexibility of our provision.

Our course offerings vary from year to year, especially at honours level, and will depend on the degree programme you study – our courses for 2019/20 are listed below. On how they fit into the most common programmes, see the Typical Programme Structures in Classics information on page 14.

## First year non-linguistic courses

### The Greek World 1A: Greece in the Making

The history and culture of the Greeks, their political, military and cultural institutions and interactions with neighbours such as Persia, in the period from the Bronze Age through to Archaic and early Classical eras (down to c.476 BC).

### The Greek World 1B: Greece's New Horizons

Trace the development of Greek culture in Athens and other Greek city states in the period from the Peloponnesian War, through the rise of Macedonia and the reign of Alexander the Great, to the formation of the Hellenistic Kingdoms.

### The Roman World 1A: The Rise of Rome

Study the political and social history of Rome from the conquest of Italy down to the fall of the republic and the rise of Augustus, together with the material culture, monuments, art, poetry, drama and thought of the Romans during this period.

### The Roman World 1B: The Roman Empire

Study the political and social history of Rome from the death of Augustus to the late 3rd century AD, together with the material culture, monuments, art, literature and thought of the Romans during this period.

## First year Greek and Latin courses

### Greek 1A and 1B

The first course introduces absolute beginners to the morphology and syntax of Classical Greek. In the second you will develop your knowledge of the morphology and syntax of Classical Greek and your skill in reading original Greek texts (e.g. Lysias, Euripides).

### Greek 1C and 1D

You will advance your knowledge of the Classical Greek language and develop the ability to read independently with linguistic and literary understanding.

Typical authors include Homer, Xenophon, Euripides and Plato.

### Latin 1A and Latin 1B

The first course introduces absolute beginners to the morphology and syntax of Classical Latin. The second will develop your knowledge of the morphology and syntax of classical Latin and your skill in reading original Latin texts such as Ovid and Suetonius.

### Latin 1C and 1D

You will consolidate your knowledge of the morphology and syntax of Classical Latin, improve your skills in reading original Latin texts and develop your understanding of the interpretation of Latin authors. Typical authors include Catullus, Cicero and Virgil.

## Second year non-linguistic courses

### Ancient History 2A: Past and Present in the Ancient World

The course provides an introduction to ancient historiography. You will analyse ancient historians and histories, especially the key figures and texts in the development of the genre, including Herodotus, Thucydides, Xenophon, Polybius, Livy, Tacitus, Cassius Dio, and Ammianus Marcellinus.

### Ancient History 2B: Themes and Theories in Ancient History

This course focuses on how crucial facets of ancient life can be studied today and how they have been approached in the past. It is a problem-based course, designed to introduce you to key models and theories used in studying ancient history.

### The Transformation of the Roman World: Towards Byzantium and the Early Medieval West

This course looks at the political, cultural and religious transition undergone by the Roman empire – and with it classical civilisation – in Late Antiquity (c. 300-ca. 800). How did the monolithic late Roman state give way to Germanic kingdoms in western Europe, and

develop into the Greek-speaking Byzantine empire of the eastern Mediterranean? And how did the monotheistic religions, Christianity and Islam, establish themselves and influence politics and everyday life across the Mediterranean and Near East?

### Greek Art and Archaeology

This course surveys the art and archaeology of ancient Greece from the Bronze Age (c.3000 –1100 BC) to the early Roman imperial period (1st century AD), considering the physical remains of ancient Greek life and society, including religion, domestic life, civic spaces, burial practices, social practices, the military, and interactions with other cultures.

### Roman Art and Archaeology

This course focuses on the material culture of the Roman world from the early history of Rome through to the early Christian period (c.8th century BC–4th century AD). It examines different strands of the art and archaeology of this period, exploring what these reveal about contemporary society and culture, urban and rural life, religious practices, death and burial, visual display, domestic life, the negotiation of status and power, warfare, and interactions between groups within and beyond the Roman empire.

### Classical Literature 2: Greek and Roman Epic

Classical Literature 2 is an introduction to ancient epic, at present Homer, Apollonius of Rhodes and Virgil. The works are studied in translation.

## Second year Greek and Latin courses

### Greek 2A or 2A Ex-beginners/2B

Advance your knowledge of the Classical Greek language and develop the ability to read independently in Classical Greek with linguistic and literary understanding. Typical authors include Homer, Thucydides, Sophocles and

Demosthenes. 2A Ex- beginners offers those who took beginners' courses in first year a graduated step up to advanced level.

### Latin 2A or 2A Ex-beginners/2B

Advance your knowledge of Latin language and literature, and develop your ability to read independently in Latin literature with a linguistic and literary understanding of the original texts. Typical authors include Tacitus, Prudentius, Horace and Petronius. 2A Ex-beginners offers those who took beginners' courses in their first year a graduated step up to advanced level.

### Third and fourth year courses

You will choose option courses in your third and fourth (honours) years from a wide selection available across the subject area. Depending on your degree programme, courses may be compulsory or available as optional courses. Our courses vary from year to year but here are those that have been taught in 2018–2019 and 2019–2020. For up-to-date information about 2020 entry, visit [www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/degrees](http://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/degrees)

### Ancient History

- After Alexander
- Constantinople: The History of a Medieval Megalopolis
- The Dark Side of Empire: Conspiracy in Imperial Rome
- Early Roman Egypt
- Empresses and Others: Women of Imperial Rome
- The Formation of the Medieval Roman Empire, 602-867
- The Greek World and Rome
- The History of Republican Italy through Inscribed Objects
- The Jewish Diaspora under the Roman Empire
- Judaea in the Hellenistic World: A Clash of Cultures?

- Money, Men and Gods in Archaic and Classical Greece
- Roman Judaea
- Roman Slavery
- The Severans
- Sparta and Crete: Classical Greek Society beyond Athens
- Violence and Disorder in Roman Society, 133 BC–31 BC
- The World of St Augustine

### Classical Art and Archaeology (includes some courses from Archaeology Department\*)

- Ancient Superpowers: The Armies and Military Monuments of Rome and Persia
- Handling Greek Pottery
- The City in the Late Antique Mediterranean World
- The Athenian Akropolis
- Byzantine Archaeology\*
- Early and Archaic Greek Art and Archaeology
- Hadrian's Wall and its Stakeholders, Past and Present
- Hellenistic Art
- The Archaeology and History of Egypt: the Early Dynastic until the end of the Middle Kingdom (c. 3100-1650 BC)\*

*Constantinople, above, can also be taken as a Classical Archaeology course*

### Classical Literature in Translation

- Ancient Didactic Poetry
- Ancient Literature from a Comparative Perspective
- Monsters, Murder and Mayhem: Biography in the Ancient World
- Socrates and Plato: Five Dialogues
- Tragedy
- Troy after the Fall
- Cicero and Catiline

*Various Ancient History courses may also be taken as Classical Literature in Translation*

### Greek

- Greek Language A or Greek Language B (compulsory)
- Early Greek Philosophy
- Greek Palaeography
- Herodotus
- Homer
- Socrates and Plato

### Latin

- Latin Language A or Latin Language B (compulsory)
- The Catilinarian Conspiracy
- Cicero the Advocate
- Later Latin Poetry: Virgil and his Late Antique Readers
- Latin Epic [=the *Aeneid*]
- The Latin Manuscript: Palaeography, Codicology, Transmission
- Latin Satire
- Lucretius: *De rerum natura*
- Medieval Latin [=Medieval pastoral poetry]

*Other courses taught outside the School may also be available.*



### Typical programme structures in Classics

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
<b>MA in Classics</b>			
Latin 1A and 1B or Latin 1C and 1D Greek 1A and 1B or Greek 1C or 1D Two outside courses	Latin 2A (or 2A Ex-beginners) and 2B Greek 2A (or 2A Ex-beginners) and 2B Two outside courses	Latin Language A Greek Language A Two specialist text courses in each language*	Classics dissertation (double weighted) Two specialist text courses in each language
<b>MA in Classical Studies</b>			
Either four Greek and Roman World courses or two World and two Latin/Greek courses Two outside courses	Ancient History 2A Classical Literature 2 Two further second year Classics courses Two outside courses	Six courses following on from those taken in subhonours (three courses in honours years must be Classical Literature)	Classics dissertation (double weighted) Four courses following from those taken in subhonours
<b>MA in Ancient History</b>			
Greek World 1A Greek World 1B Roman World 1A Roman World 1B Two outside courses	Two ancient history courses One further course from Classics Three outside courses	Six courses in Ancient History*	Classics dissertation (double weighted) Four courses in Ancient History
<b>MA in Classical Archaeology and Ancient History</b>			
Greek World 1A Greek World 1B Roman World 1A Roman World 1B Two outside courses Classical Archaeology in the Field and the Museum	Ancient History 2A Ancient History 2B Greek and Roman Art and Archaeology Two outside courses	Two courses in each of Classical Archaeology and Ancient History Two free choice from either group*	Classics dissertation (double weighted) Two courses in each of Classical Archaeology and Ancient History
<b>MA in Ancient History and Latin</b> (scheme applies, with variations, to MA Ancient History and Greek; Classical Archaeology and Latin/Greek; Ancient and Medieval History)			
Latin 1A and 1B or 1C and 1D Two of the four World courses Two outside courses	Latin 2A (or 2A Ex-beginners) and 2B Ancient History 2A Ancient History 2b Two outside courses	Three courses in each of Ancient History and Latin (i/c Latin Language)	Classics dissertation (double weighted) Two courses in each of Ancient History and Latin
<b>Exemplary Joint Degree: English Literature and Classics</b> (applies, with variations, to joint degrees with History, Divinity, and (modified for 3rd year abroad) modern languages.			
English Literature 1 Latin 1A/1B or 1C/1D or Greek 1A/1B or 1C/1D or two World courses Two outside courses	English Literature 2 Any two Classics second year courses following from first year choices Two outside courses	Two English courses or equivalent Two Classics courses following on from subhonours Two free choice from either group	English / Classics dissertation (double-weighted) Two English courses or equivalent Two Classics courses or equivalent

\*In third year at least one course in your specialised subjects can often be replaced by another Classics course (e.g. Classical Literature instead of Greek).



## Life beyond the classroom

The friends you meet, places you discover and the lasting memories you create contribute as much to your university life as your formal learning.

Thousands of students across four different universities call Edinburgh home, giving the city a unique buzz and ensuring you will be in good company.

Study with us and you'll find a lively community with plenty of opportunities to meet other students socially. The School of History, Classics and Archaeology and our student union hold events regularly.

### Classics Society

The Edinburgh University Classics Society is a friendly and fun place for all who appreciate Classics, ancient history, or who just enjoy watching Gladiators.

The society hosts regular socials and their own lecture series with internationally-regarded classicists, and produce two theatre productions each year and just generally have fun. The society also regularly organises trips to Rome, Athens and Berlin in reading week of second semester.

[www.shca.ed.ac.uk/classicssociety](http://www.shca.ed.ac.uk/classicssociety)

### Retrospect

Retrospect is the University's student-led History, Classics and Archaeology journal. Whether you are interested in writing about your subject outside of your studies, or simply want to gain experience in writing, editing, designing or publishing, Retrospect publishes once a semester with an excellent calendar of socials and careers events.

<https://retrospectjournal.com>

### Edinburgh University Students' Association

The Students' Association offers an array of bars, shops, cafes and entertainment venues, including the city's biggest student nightclub. Regular entertainment includes a variety of clubs, live music and comedy, plus debates and regular club meetings. The Students' Association also supports more than 280 student societies covering all areas of interest across sport, music, drama and the arts.

### Sport and exercise

Whether a recreational gym-user or a performance athlete going for gold, our world-class sports facilities and coaches cater for you.

## Advance your career

Choose to study at Edinburgh and you'll be investing in an education that will help you build a successful future. We help students to develop a broad range of skills, grow in confidence and learn more about themselves.

Six months after graduating, 94 per cent of Edinburgh students are in employment or postgraduate study. We are ranked in the top 10 in the UK and top 100 in the world for the employability of our graduates (Times Higher Education, Global Employability University Rankings 2019).

### Career advice and opportunities to enhance your CV

Our award-winning Careers Service can help with your career choices, and offer practical advice about how to progress your career goals. The University proactively sources internship opportunities for students including on-campus summer internships, opportunities with local employers in a range of sectors for final year students and recent graduates, work shadowing alumni based locally and nationally, and international summer internships, developed with our global network of employers.

Most employers expect something extra from today's graduates so the University also runs the Edinburgh Award to help set you apart – this award recognises your involvement in a wide range of co- and extra-curricular activities, and the skills and attributes you demonstrate.

### Stand out with a Classics degree

With a degree in Classics from Edinburgh, you'll gain practical, intellectual and theoretical skills that are highly valued by employers.

You'll gain rigorous mental training in a range of disciplines, enabling you to demonstrate intellectual flexibility and the ability to adapt to new situations and to learn new skills.

By working with distant sources and inconclusive evidence, you'll learn to think logically and to develop sound research and analytical skills. You'll learn how to make links between what you already know and what you still need to find out. You'll be taught how to compile and critically evaluate evidence in order to formulate and present an argument coherently.

Our Classics graduates have gone on to pursue a range of career paths. Previous graduates now work in journalism, museums, teaching, academia, accountancy, finance, IT, publishing, the legal profession and the civil service.

# Get ready for studying Classics

## General reading

If you feel like some general reading in preparation for your studies, here are some good history books for a general audience:

Mary Beard, *SPQR: A History of Ancient Rome* (2015)

Robin Waterfield, *Creator, Conquerors, and Citizens: A History of Ancient Greece* (2018)

Two recent editions of *In Our Time* featuring members of the Department

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b09xnl51> Roman Slavery

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b096gjw0> Constantine the Great

If you want holiday reading, classic historical novels set in the ancient world include Robert Graves, *I Claudius*; *Claudius the God*; *Count Belisarius*; Mary Renault, *The Last of the Wine*, Robert Harris's Cicero trilogy; Gore Vidal, *Julian* and *Creation*. More recent popular fiction would include Harry Sidebottom's Ballista novels and Lindsey Davis' *Falco* and *Flavia Albia* novels.

Finally, there is no expectation that you will start work on your courses before you arrive, but here is a preview.

In Greek World, one of the required books is J.M. Barringer, *The Art and Archaeology of Ancient Greece* (Cambridge, 2014) – a prizewinning book by one of our Professors!

In Roman World, the set textbook is M.T. Boatwright, D.J. Gargola and R.J.A Talbert, *The Romans: From Village to Empire: A History of Ancient Rome from Earliest Times to Constantine* (New York and Oxford, 2004).

For those studying Greek and Latin if you'd like details of the set books so that you can look at them before arriving, these should be known in June: please feel free to contact the department then.



## Contact us

For further information about studying Classics at Edinburgh,  
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For further information about your application,  
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### Classics Department

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### School of History, Classics and Archaeology

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We have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the information in this brochure before going to print. However, please check online for the most up-to-date information:

[www.ed.ac.uk/history-classics-archaeology](http://www.ed.ac.uk/history-classics-archaeology)

This document is available in alternative formats upon request such as large print, please email  
[hca-prospective-ug@ed.ac.uk](mailto:hca-prospective-ug@ed.ac.uk)

## FAQs

### Where do I find degree programme listings and entry requirements?

[www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/degrees](http://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/degrees)

### Where do I find out more about classics courses?

[www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/](http://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/)

### Where can I find out about accommodation?

[www.ed.ac.uk/students/new-students/accommodation](http://www.ed.ac.uk/students/new-students/accommodation)

### Where do I find out about applying?

[www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/applying](http://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/applying)

### Where do I find out about my offer?

[www.ed.ac.uk/studying/my-offer](http://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/my-offer)

### Where do I apply and track my application?

[www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)

### What financial support can I apply for?

[www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding](http://www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding)

### What information can I get about facilities and support services?

[www.ed.ac.uk/undergraduate/facilities](http://www.ed.ac.uk/undergraduate/facilities)

### Where can I find out about sports facilities?

[www.ed.ac.uk/undergraduate/sport](http://www.ed.ac.uk/undergraduate/sport)

### Where can I find out more about transport in and around the city?

[transportforedinburgh.com](http://transportforedinburgh.com)

### What do your students think?

[edin.ac/student-life](http://edin.ac/student-life)



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