Requirements for PhD in Classics

Students must take at least 18 courses in the first two years (9 per year) for a quality grade of B and above.

Year 1:
• Required courses:
  • Research seminar, co-taught by two faculty members (two-quarter course)
  • Survey of Greek or Latin Literature (two-quarter course)
• Other courses:
  • Greek or Latin Prose Composition, or another form of language proficiency
  • At least four additional seminars and skills courses in Classics or other departments

Year 2:
• Required courses:
  • Research seminar, co-taught by two faculty members (two-quarter course)
  • Survey of Latin or Greek Literature (two-quarter course)
  • Pedagogy course in winter quarter (this does not count towards the number 9 classes per academic year)
• Other courses:
  • Greek or Latin Prose Composition, or another form of language proficiency
  • At least four additional seminars and skills courses in Classics or other departments

Other Requirements of Years 1 and 2:
• Latin and Greek translation exams, offered at end of each summer, based on reading list
• Submit one research paper per year, usually completed in the two-quarter research seminar
• Modern language exams (German and French, Italian or Spanish)
• Submit teaching plan in second year at the end of spring quarter

Year 3:
• Comprehensive exam at end of winter quarter, based on reading list
• Special field exam at end of spring quarter

This is an individual exam in a research area of the student’s choosing, by the end of the spring quarter of year 3. This special field exam will include the composition of a bibliography of approximately thirty items and a written exam of two long essays (from two out of three topics) composed open-book, over the course of four days. The completion of
the written part of the exam will be followed by a discussion on the exam, and its relation to future dissertation work, with a committee.

The advisor for the exam will be chosen by the end of the autumn quarter of year 3, while the rest of the committee can be brought together for the reading and discussion of the exam. Students will be graded as having either passed, failed, or high passed this exam.

The topic of the special field exam will be directly related to the student’s expected dissertation topic and will lead into the reference and background research material for their dissertation prospectus.

• Completion of any other unfulfilled requirements from years 1 and 2

Year 4:
• Prospectus/first chapter workshop in autumn and winter quarters
• Constitute a dissertation committee by end of autumn quarter
• Submit draft of prospectus to committee by end of winter quarter
• Submit final prospectus to department by May 1
• Complete rough draft of first chapter by end of summer

Years 5 and 6:
• Write and edit dissertation
• Annual meeting with dissertation committee at start of spring quarter.
• Dissertation defense
• Prepare job applications

Other Requirements of Years 3-6:
• Teaching in accordance with Departmental Pedagogical Training Plan and each student’s individual teaching plan