Joint PhD Program in Social Thought and Classics

Our joint PhD program in Social Thought and Classics (STC) enables students to combine their study of an issue or text from the ancient Greek and Roman world with a broadly interdisciplinary approach and a professional mastery of philological skills.

Students who aspire to the joint degree initially apply and are admitted to either the Department of Classics or the Committee on Social Thought. They apply to the second department after matriculation at the University, upon having completed a body of coursework that substantiates the application. Admission by the second department constitutes admission to joint degree status, but the student’s original department will remain their sole department for the purposes of registration, financial aid, and fellowships.

Candidates for the joint degree will have two faculty advisors. One advisor will hold a primary appointment in the Committee on Social Thought and the other will hold a primary appointment in the Department of Classics.

To complete the joint PhD, students will need to fulfill both the degree requirements for the PhD Program in Classics and the degree requirements for the PhD in Social Thought.

They must also be aware of the following:

- STC students must offer a majority of non-classical texts on the Social Thought Fundamentals Exam, which must be completed prior the third week of the Spring Term of one's third year. This requirement ensures that the combination of Classics and Social Thought is genuine and rigorous. The faculty advisors will help students to select courses on non-classical subjects to prepare for the exam.
- The Social Thought requirement of a high pass in a foreign language exam will be automatically met by the Classics degree requirements.
• The dissertation proposal must be approved by both the Department of Classics and the Committee on Social Thought.
• The dissertation committee must include at least one professor from each department.
• The committee chair should be a member of the student’s registered department (or by request and with sufficient grounds, from the second department).

Because students can access joint degree status through either department, the typical roadmap for degree completion can vary.

A candidate for the joint degree entering from the Department of Classics might progress through the program in the following manner:

**Year 1**
- Take the following courses:
  - Survey of Greek or Latin literature (2)
  - Prose composition in Greek or Latin
  - Two-quarter Seminar in Classics (2)
  - Two courses in Social Thought (2)
  - Two electives
- Pass translation exam in language of survey
- Submit research paper from the two-quarter Seminar to the Classics Department
- Demonstrate competence in French or German (high pass)

**Year 2**
- Take the following courses:
  - Survey of remaining classical language (2)
  - Prose composition in remaining classical language
  - Two quarter Seminar in Classics (2)
  - Four courses in Social Thought (4)
- Pass translation exam in language of survey
- Submit research paper from the two-quarter seminar to the Department

**Year 3**
- Begin to fulfill teaching requirements
- Pass the Classics Comprehensive and Field Exam
- Demonstrate competence in remaining modern language (high pass)
- Pass the Social Thought Fundamentals Exam
- Enroll in the Social Thought Prospectus Workshop (under advisement)

**Year 4**
- Take the Classics Department Prospectus Workshop
- Assemble dissertation committee and submit dissertation proposal

**Candidacy**
- Research, write, and defend dissertation
A candidate for the joint degree entering from the Committee on Social Thought might progress through the program in the following manner:

**Year 1**
- Take the following courses:
  - Survey of Greek or Latin literature (2)
  - Prose composition in Greek or Latin (1)
  - One 300-level or higher course in the other ancient language (1)
  - Five additional courses (5)
- Pass translation exam in language of survey
- Demonstrate competence in French or German
- Fulfill the remaining requirements for the Degree in Classics
  - Survey of remaining classical language (2)
  - Prose composition in Greek or Latin (1)
  - Two-quarter Seminar in Classics (2)
  - Take four additional courses (4)
- Pass translation exam in language of survey
- Submit Research paper from the two-quarter seminar in Classics

**Year 3**
- Pass the Comprehensive and Field Exams in Classics
- Begin to fulfill teaching requirements
- Demonstrate competence in remaining modern language
- Pass the Social Thought Fundamentals Exam
- Enroll in the Social Thought Prospectus Workshop

**Year 4**
- Assemble dissertation committee and submit dissertation proposal
- Classics Department Prospectus workshop

**Candidacy**
- Research, write, and defend dissertation

Students may exchange the third and fourth years by sitting the Social Thought Fundamentals Exam before the Classics Comprehensive and Field Exams.