

What Can I Do with a Major in...

Classical Studies

Discover Classical Studies

Skill sets:

- Ability to adjust to new environments rather quickly
- Facility to organize and remember exhaustive vocabulary
- An understanding of Greek and Latin grammar
- Favorable listening, clarifying, and responding skills
- High proficiency in reading, speaking, and writing
- Adept at phonetics and replicating sounds
- Propensity to think logically
- Analytical; problem solving skills

Source: www.uga.edu/careers

Classical studies embraces the study of Greek and Latin language, literature, history and culture. An emphasis in classics provides students scholarly tools that enable them to better understand the culture of the ancient world as well as the world in which they live. Studying classical culture also improves a student's ability to communicate cross culturally, increases understanding and sensitivity to different cultures, and broadens knowledge of the world.

At Wake, students may major or minor in Greek, Latin, or Classical Studies. Courses offered by the Department are relevant to studies in Art, Anthropology, History, Religion, Philosophy, and Women's Studies. The



Classics faculty is committed to excellence in both teaching and research. The Department is friendly and supportive with its relatively small number of students. Lower level courses are generally limited to 25 students, while advanced courses in Latin, Greek and Classical Studies are often much smaller.

Career opportunities for graduates include teaching at the secondary level, non-teaching academic positions, journalism, business, museum work, law, library work,

editorial work, positions in travel and tourist industry, and government positions in foreign service. The major also prepares students to enter graduate school in classics, comparative literature, linguistics, history, as well as other fields. Many Wake Forest classics majors have gone on to graduate study at distinguished institutions and have been successful in pursuing higher degrees.

Sources: www.uga.edu/careers and www.wfu.edu/Academic-departments/Classical-Languages/

Remember.... No matter what your major is, it is important to complement your educational experience with internships, volunteer work, and other extracurricular activities. Employers are interested in your skills and abilities, not just your major. Majoring in a certain area does not require you to choose a certain career field.

AREAS

EMPLOYERS

STRATEGIES

SOCIAL SERVICES

Administration
Research
Writing/Editing

Federal, state, and local government
Nonprofit organizations

Learn federal, state, and local job application process.
Volunteer or intern with social service organizations.

COMMUNICATIONS

Technical Writing
Editing
Copywriting
Journalism
Research
Translation

Publishers
Magazines
Newspapers
TV Stations
Film Companies

Develop excellent writing and research skills.
Take courses in applicable areas: technical writing, journalism, marketing research, etc.
Gain related work experience.
Develop portfolio for some areas.

BUSINESS/INDUSTRY

Advertising
Customer Service
Human Resources
Management
Market Research
Sales

Business corporations in various industries such as
Banking, retailing, insurance, financial services,
etc.

Develop excellent writing skills.
Take courses in area of interest.
Minor in business.
Obtain related experience through internships,
summer and part-time jobs.

LAW

Law firms
Corporate law departments

Obtain Juris Doctor.
Find a part-time job in a law firm.
Maintain a high GPA
Participate in mock trial or debate teams.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Study in the Classics develops verbal and analytical skills useful in managerial and executive positions.
- Serves as good preparation for graduate study in law and other highly analytical types of work such as anthropology, history, or English; solid preparation for research or practice in religion.
- Undergraduate degree sufficient for positions in secondary school teaching, business, and finance.
- Additional training in the sciences or arts will expand job horizons.
- Graduate level studies lead to positions as college teachers, lawyers, or medical doctors.
- Concentration within the program can be Latin and Greek, classical literature, classical archaeology, or classical civilization.
- Develop excellent research skills.
- Obtain experience through internships, summer or part-time work, or volunteer positions.

CLASSICS

What can I do with this degree?

AREAS

EMPLOYERS

STRATEGIES

EDUCATION

Teaching
Research
Administration

Universities and colleges
Elementary and secondary schools, public and private

Ph.D. required for college/university teaching.
Earn graduate degree in college student affairs or library/information science for other university positions.

Learn certification process for teaching K-12.
Acquire certification in additional subject area(s) for increased job possibilities.
Maintain a high GPA and develop strong recommendations from faculty.

THE ARTS

Administration/Management
Archival Work
Education
Research
Translation

Museums
Public, private, university
Art galleries
Art councils
Historical societies and sites
Archives
Libraries
Public research agencies
Private foundations

Develop excellent writing and verbal skills.
Acquire computer skills.
Volunteer or intern in an art or historical museum.
Earn a graduate degree in museum studies, art history, library/information science, or other related field.

GOVERNMENT

Administration
Research
Policy Analysis
Program Management
Translation
Foreign Language Teaching
Library/Information Specialist

State and local government
Federal government including
State Department
Civil Rights Commission
Education Department
Environmental Protection Agency
Federal Trade Commission
Government Printing Office
Health and Human Services
Labor Department
Library of Congress
National Labor Relations Board

Learn federal, state, and local job application process.
Take additional courses in area of interest.
Acquire certification/licensure if needed.
Get experience through government internship programs.
Earn a master's degree in a relevant field for high level positions.

MEDICAL

Private practice
Hospitals
Various government/private agencies

Take applicable prerequisites for medical school and maintain an excellent GPA
Volunteer or work in a hospital or medical facility.

Office of Career Services

Wake Forest University
Reynolda Hall, Room 8
Winston-Salem, NC 27106

Appointments may be made in person or by calling: 758-5902

Office Hours:
Monday–Friday
8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

www.wfu.edu/career

Department of Classical Studies

Tribble Hall
758-5330

www.wfu.edu/academics/classical-languages/

Careers that often interest classics majors*

- Anthropologist
- Attorney
- Consultant
- Curator
- Editor
- Educator
- Foreign Service Officer
- Journalist
- Librarian
- Minister
- Physician
- Technical Writer
- Travel Agent

**some of these careers require graduate education*

Student Spotlight: Why Classics?

Selecting a major can be a tough decision. Here's the inside scoop in the life of a classics major.

Q: Why did you want to become a Latin major?

A: I had been taking Latin courses each semester since freshman year, and it really just came naturally to me.

Q: What do you intend to do with this major?

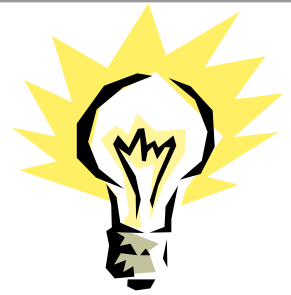
A: I intend to apply for

Masters and Doctoral programs in Latin. I am also applying to some boarding schools as a Latin teacher.

Q: What can you say about the Classics Department at WFU?

A: The professors in the department are amazing and brilliant. They know my strengths and weaknesses, and I get individual attention.

Q: Do you have any advice for students pursuing this route?



A: To people selecting this major. I say go for it. Don't worry about people asking what are you going to do with a classics major.

Fun Facts about Classics Majors

Law: Recent studies have documented that classics, together with math majors, have the highest success rates of any majors in law school.

Business: A 1990 survey of business recruitment officers found that “studying the classics developed intellectual rigor, communication skills, analytical skills, the ability to handle complex information and above all, a breadth of view which few other disciplines can provide.”

Museums: Classics, especially with an emphasis in material culture and archaeology, is an excellent preparation for a career working in or with museums.

www.departments.bucknell.edu/classics/major.htm

Professional Associations

Check out these sites for more information about Classical Studies and careers related to Classics:

- American Association of Museums www.aam-ug.org
- American Library Association www.ala.org
- American Philological Association www.apaclassics.org
- American Classical League www.aclclassics.org

Considering Graduate School?

For specific information and advice on pursuing a graduate degree in classical studies, see a faculty member in the classical studies department.

For general information on graduate school—applying, interviewing, admissions tests, schools—check out the Career Resource Center, Reynolda Hall, Room 10, and/or schedule an appointment with one of the career counselors.