

Classics and Classical Studies

Learning Goals

1. To attain the ability to read at least one classical language (Greek or Latin).
2. To develop strong close-reading skills.
3. To develop strong analytic writing skills.
4. To gain the ability to discuss the major works and ideas of classical texts.
5. To be able to conduct basic research necessary for the study of the classical world.
6. To be able to pursue a career in teaching Latin and/or Greek at the secondary school level.
7. To be able to pursue graduate work in classics.

About the major

Classics is the study of the thought, art, and life of ancient Greece and Rome. The founding works of Western literature, history, and philosophy are its main subject matter, together with the languages—Greek and Latin—that enable students to approach these works in the original.

We offer a core of lecture courses and seminars that provide introductions to the major works of Greek and Roman literature, history, and philosophy—all studied in English translation.

Middlebury is also fortunate to have the Classical Studies Program in which students can major as well. The Classical Studies Program is designed to offer a broad, rigorous, education in the classical world, and illustrates how the achievements of classical civilization form the foundations upon which so many disciplines are built. The interdisciplinary nature of the program is reflected in a teaching staff that includes faculty in the departments of classics, history of art and architecture, philosophy, political science, and religion.

“I was a physics major with a concentration in classics, which to me has been a powerful combination. The complex problem-solving skills paired with the ability to communicate articulately have been a major factor throughout my career.”

—Chris Coates '86
Managing Director, Accenture

Reasons you might choose this major

- You are interested in some of the world's oldest languages and cultures.
- You want to deepen your understanding of contemporary society by studying its origins in Greek and Roman society, politics, and art.
- You are ready to delve deeply into the study of a language with the aim of reading and translating original texts.
- You want to understand some of the greatest monuments of human thought, appreciate and analyze productions of human culture, and develop and construct careful arguments in the classical tradition.
- You want a solid foundation for any number of careers, including in law, government, art, teaching, and other paths.



Translating Learning into Professional Competencies

Throughout your time at Middlebury, you will develop and enhance the following core professional competencies, skills, and dispositions highly valued by employers that will prepare you for leadership and success in any given field:

Critical Thinking: Exercise sound reasoning to analyze issues, make decisions, and overcome problems.

Oral/Written Communications: Articulate thoughts and ideas clearly and effectively in written and oral forms.

Teamwork/Collaboration: Build collaborative relationships with colleagues and customers from diverse backgrounds.

Leadership: Leverage the strengths of others to achieve common goals, and use interpersonal skills to coach and develop others.

Professionalism/Work Ethic: Demonstrate personal accountability and effective work habits.

Global/Intercultural Fluency: Value, respect, and learn from diverse cultures, races, ages, genders, sexual orientations, and religions.

Digital Technology: Leverage existing digital technologies ethically and efficiently to solve problems, complete tasks, and accomplish goals.

Career Management: Identify and articulate one's skills, strengths, knowledge, and experiences relevant to career goals, and identify areas necessary for professional development.

Where classics and classical studies majors go

Applying your learning through internships . . .

Students pursue internships and research in a variety of fields, enabling them to apply their liberal arts learning in real-world settings. Internships, research, and self-directed projects enrich your academic experience and help prepare you for life after Middlebury. Students have interned or done research at the following:

NYU Yeronisos Island Excavations	Responsible Endowments Coalition
Transformative Justice Law Project	Smithsonian National Museum of American History
National Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty	First Judicial District of Pennsylvania
Merrill Lynch	Karamah: Muslim Women Lawyers for Human Rights
Carolyn Jenks Literary Agency	Corporate Accountability International
Emerging Asia	Morgan Stanley
The White House	Conflict Records Research Center at the National Naval Defense Institute
Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee	Catholic Charities
Climate Justice Alliance	New York Press
Locus Analytics	Bellevue Hospital
Bloomsbury Publishing	

. . . leading to meaningful, dynamic, and engaging career paths.

See just some of the many interesting ways our graduates have applied their liberal arts learning to engage the world. If you want to see what other Middlebury alumni are doing now, log into Midd2Midd and search by major. go/midd2midd

Blackwell's Rare Book, <i>Rare Books Dealer</i>	Forensic Risk Alliance LLP, <i>COO and Partner</i>
John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Co., <i>Assistant Vice President</i>	Nikita Group Media LLC, <i>Chief Revenue Officer</i>
Yale University School of Medicine, <i>Anesthesiologist</i>	Hartford Investment Management Company, <i>Senior Portfolio Analyst</i>
Athena Global Advisors, <i>CEO</i>	Johnson Capital, <i>Director</i>
ACLU, <i>Senior Staff Attorney, Speech Privacy & Technology</i>	Thermo Fisher Scientific, <i>Senior Director, Human Resources</i>
Yelp, <i>Key Account Executive</i>	University of Washington, <i>Law Librarian</i>
Woofer Music & Sound, <i>Executive Creative Director, Director of Licensing</i>	Mizuho Alternative Investments, <i>Global Head of Strategic Development</i>
United States Marine Corps, <i>Senior Defense Counsel, Okinawa Japan</i>	Lexington Pediatrics, PC, <i>Pediatrician</i>
The Fenn School, <i>Sustainability Director</i>	Third Wish Media, <i>Producer</i>
Computer Sciences Corp., <i>Senior Software Engineer</i>	CIBC World Markets, <i>Director</i>
	U.S. National Park Service, <i>Park Ranger</i>