Latin, B.A.

Students who pursue the Latin major read a wide variety of authors and can expect to achieve a high level of competency in the ancient language of the Romans. Coursework includes such favorites as Vergil, Ovid, Cicero, Julius Caesar, and Catullus, but students can expect to be able to read other authors like the historians (Livy, Sallust, and Tacitus) and genres like lyric, satire, and drama.

To support Latin majors as they pursue their educational goals, CANES provides annual scholarship opportunities. We also offer a summer study abroad program led by members of our faculty. Learn more under Resources and Scholarships.

For those who are interested in teaching Latin at the secondary level, the School of Education [link](http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/education/curriculum-instruction/latin-bse) offers certification. Students of this program take Latin courses in our department, while receiving their teacher training in the School of Education.

How to Get In

Declaring the Latin major is as easy as meeting with the CANES advisor. Make an appointment today [link](https://calendar.wisc.edu/scheduling-assistant/public/profiles/YjfjFEtg.html).

Requirements

University General Education Requirements

All undergraduate students at the University of Wisconsin–Madison are required to fulfill a minimum set of common university general education requirements to ensure that every graduate acquires the essential core of an undergraduate education. This core establishes a foundation for living a productive life, being a citizen of the world, appreciating aesthetic values, and engaging in lifelong learning in a continually changing world. Various schools and colleges will have requirements in addition to the requirements listed below. Consult your advisor for assistance, as needed. For additional information, see the university Undergraduate General Education Requirements [link](http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/#requirementsforundergraduatestudytext) section of the Guide.

- General Education
  - Breadth—Humanities/Literature/Arts: 6 credits
  - Breadth—Natural Science: 4 to 6 credits, consisting of one 4- or 5-credit course with a laboratory component; or two courses providing a total of 6 credits
  - Breadth—Social Studies: 3 credits
  - Communication Part A & Part B *
  - Ethnic Studies *
  - Quantitative Reasoning Part A & Part B *

* The mortarboard symbol appears before the title of any course that fulfills one of the Communication Part A or Part B, Ethnic Studies, or Quantitative Reasoning Part A or Part B requirements.

College of Letters & Science Breadth and Degree Requirements: Bachelor of Arts (B.A.)

Students pursuing a bachelor of arts degree in the College of Letters & Science must complete all of the requirements below. The College of Letters & Science allows this major to be paired with either a bachelor of arts or a bachelor of science curriculum. View a comparison of the degree requirements here. [link](https://pubs.wisc.edu/home/archives/ug15/images/babs2009.pdf)

Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements

- Mathematics: Fulfilled with completion of University General Education requirements Quantitative Reasoning a (QR A) and Quantitative Reasoning b (QR B) coursework. Please note that some majors may require students to complete additional math coursework beyond the B.A. mathematics requirement.

- Foreign Language
  - Complete the fourth unit of a foreign language; OR
  - Complete the third unit of a foreign language and the second unit of an additional foreign language

  Note: A unit is one year of high school work or one semester/term of college work.

- L&S Breadth
  - Humanities, 12 credits: 6 of the 12 credits must be in literature
  - Social Sciences, 12 credits
  - Natural Sciences, 12 credits: must include one 3+ credit course in the biological sciences; must include one 3+ credit course in the physical sciences

Liberal Arts and Science Coursework 108 credits

Depth of Intermediate/Advanced work 60 intermediate or advanced credits

Major Declare and complete at least one (1) major

Total Credits 120 credits

UW-Madison Experience

Minimum 30 credits in residence, overall

30 credits in residence after the 90th credit

Minimum 2,000 in all coursework at UW-Madison

GPAs 2,000 in intermediate/advanced coursework at UW-Madison

Non-L&S Students Pursuing an L&S Major

Non-L&S students who have permission from their school/college to pursue an additional major within L&S only need to fulfill the major requirements and do not need to complete the L&S breadth and degree requirements above. Please note that the following special degree programs are not considered majors so are not available to non-L&S degree-seeking candidates:

- Applied Mathematics, Engineering and Physics (Bachelor of Science—Applied Mathematics, Engineering and Physics)
• Journalism (Bachelor of Arts–Journalism; Bachelor of Science–Journalism)
• Music (Bachelor of Music)
• Social Work (Bachelor of Social Work)

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR

The Latin major requires 26 total credits of coursework beyond the first two semesters of Latin.

Majors interested in teaching Latin in high school should consult the undergraduate advisor and the School of Education (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/education) about requirements for teaching certification.

Note about Language: The College of Letters & Science will award degree credit for foreign language work successfully completed in high school under certain circumstances and if an additional foreign language course is taken at UW–Madison. For more information, consult the Retroactive Credits policy under Policies and Regulations (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/#policiesandregulations).
How does the Latin major fit into my educational goals?

While there are a wide variety of reasons to visit your major advisor, there seem to be two recurring questions:

1. Can I complete the major during the time I have left at UW?
2. Which classes will be offered in the future?

If you like to plan, seeing your major advisor is very important; it can make the difference between fitting in Vergil or Ovid before you graduate. Many students also try to complete more than one major or certificate, and discussing how you might be able to reach this goal is another primary role of your major advisor. Advisors can speak to you about course content, which courses fit best with your interest areas, and what kinds of courses might work best with your learning style—e.g., do you prefer multiple choice or essays? Any and all of these discussions can occur during your advising appointment.

In addition to discussing the major, advisors know a lot about:

- General Education requirements
- Breadth requirements
- Interpreting university policies and deadlines
- Connecting majors to careers
- Getting involved with campus organizations
- Finding volunteer and/or internship opportunities
- Talking about your challenges and difficulties
- Connecting with tutors
- Choosing a study abroad program
- Practicing for interviews
- Talking about graduate school
- Proofreading resumes and cover letters

Ready to meet with the CANES advisor? Make an appointment today (https://calendar.wisc.edu/scheduling-assistant/public/profiles/ YjffEtg.html).

CAREERS

While many students have a difficult time believing it, a humanities major such as ours enables students who complete it to consider just about any type of career or educational pursuit. Our coursework builds the critical thinking and communication skills needed to succeed in careers ranging from politics and education to business and law.

Think about what you learn in a classroom setting as well as what you do each day to be a successful student; the skills you develop are equally important in the workplace:

- critical reading, reflection, and analysis
- proper research design and methodology
- expanded world view and exposure to new ideas/ways of thinking
- effective teamwork to advance a common project/purpose
- effective time-management and self-motivation to complete projects independently
- demonstrated writing proficiency in short and long essay format
- discussion and debate strategies

broader knowledge of career and graduate-study options

One of the more significant skills CANES majors develop is language acquisition. Study of Greek, Latin, or Biblical Hebrew sets you apart and demonstrates your willingness to explore and expand your understanding of history and culture. In addition, the study of ancient languages shows discipline and perseverance, since they are such difficult languages to learn. Overall, you will have a wide variety of skills and talents to start you on the path to a rewarding career. Visit our website (http://canes.wisc.edu/230.htm) for more information.

L&S CAREER RESOURCES

SuccessWorks at the College of Letters & Science helps students leverage the academic skills learned in their major, certificates, and liberal arts degree; explore and try out different career paths; participate in internships; prepare for the job search and/or graduate school applications; and network with professionals in the field (alumni and employers).

SuccessWorks can also assist students in career advising, résumé and cover letter writing, networking opportunities, and interview skills, as well as course offerings for undergraduates to begin their career exploration early in their undergraduate career.

- SuccessWorks (https://careers.ls.wisc.edu)
- Set up a career advising appointment (https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/make-an-appointment)
- INTER-LS 210 L&S Career Development: Taking Initiative (1 credit, targeted to first- and second-year students)—for more information, see Inter-LS 210: Career Development, Taking Initiative (https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/inter-ls-210-career-development-taking-initiative)
- Learn how we’re transforming career preparation: L&S Career Initiative (http://ls.wisc.edu/lsci)

PEOPLE

FACULTY

For full faculty profiles, visit our website (https://canes.wisc.edu/faculty).

William Aylward: Greek and Roman archaeology
Jeffrey Beneker: Biography and historiography; Roman Republic
Jeffrey Blakely: Biblical and ancient Near Eastern archaeology
William Brockli: Homer; Latin and Greek pedagogy
Alex Dressler: Ancient philosophy; gender and sexuality
Jeremy M. Hutton: Hebrew Bible; Northwest Semitics
Alice Mandell: Northwest Semitics; Israelite religions
Laura McClure: Greek literature; gender and reception studies
J C McKeown: Greek and Roman literature and culture
Grant Nelsestuen: Roman cultural history; Latin prose
Nandini Pandey: Latin poetry; Augustan culture
Mike Vanden Heuvel: Theater and performance theory

AFFILIATE FACULTY

Nicholas Cahill: Ancient Greek archaeology and art history
Emily Fletcher: Ancient Greek philosophy
Paula Gottlieb: Ancient Greek philosophy; ethics
Daniel Kapust: Roman political thought; rhetoric; political theory
Marc Kleijwegt: Roman and Greek history
Leonora Neville: Roman Empire (the Byzantine Empire) in the 9th-12th centuries
SCHOLARSHIPS AND PRIZES

In addition to routinely nominating or recommending exemplary undergraduate majors for national, regional, local and university awards, CANES offers the following competitions to classical humanities, classics, and Latin majors annually.

RUTH M. KUHLMAN UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP

Established in 1998 with a bequest from Myron George Kuhlman in memory of his wife, Ruth Miller Kuhlman (BS in Education ‘32), this is a monetary award for undergraduates to benefit and advance their studies within the field of classics. Total amount of award may be up to $2500 and the award may not be granted every academic year depending on quality of entries and availability of funds. This competition is only open to classics, classical humanities, and Latin majors. Students should apply via Scholarships@UW (which can be accessed through their MyUW page). Generally, the online application is open in early November with a deadline for submission in early February.

GERTRUDE E. SLAUGHTER SUMMER STUDY SCHOLARSHIP

A monetary award in memory of Gertrude E. Slaughter, author and widow of Professor Moses S. Slaughter 1896–1923, for undergraduate students to advance their studies at an accredited center such as the American School in Athens or the American Academy in Rome, or to participate in an active archaeological field project. Awards will be in the amount of up to $800. This competition is open only to classics, classical humanities, and Latin majors. Students should apply via Scholarships@UW (which can be accessed through their MyUW page). Generally, the online application is open in early November with a deadline for submission in early February.

LOGAN PRIZE FOR GREEK TRANSLATION

A monetary award in memory of Fellow of Classics, John Watson Logan (Ph.D. ‘23), for the translation of a passage of ancient Greek. The passage will be selected each year by the chair of the Prize Committee and awards may not be granted every academic year depending on quality of entries. This competition is open to all undergraduate students who have completed at least one semester of ancient Greek and is normally publicized in classes and to department majors in early April.

PILLINGER PRIZE FOR LATIN TRANSLATION

A monetary award in memory of Assistant Professor Hugh Edward Pillinger (1965-1970) for the translation of a passage in Latin. The passage will be selected each year by the chair of the Prize Committee and awards may not be granted every academic year depending on quality of entries. This competition is open to all undergraduate students who have completed at least one semester of Latin and is normally publicized in classes and to department majors in early April.