

# CLASSICAL AND ANCIENT NEAR EASTERN STUDIES, MA

Soon after the founding of the University of Wisconsin in 1848, the department was created as one of the first academic units at the university. The Department of Classical and Ancient Near Eastern Studies (CANES) has enjoyed a long tradition of excellence in **philological scholarship, literary criticism, archaeology, and ancient history**. At the graduate level, the department offers the master of arts and doctor of philosophy in Classical and Ancient Near Eastern Studies – Classics.

The **primary goal** of the program is to familiarize students with the **core linguistic, historical, and philological** aspects of classical and ancient near eastern studies. Students also learn to **conduct original research** in such varied areas as *gender studies, literary theory, translation studies, ecocriticism, and classical reception* under the guidance of established scholars in these areas.

In addition to specified coursework, students participate in **directed readings** with individual faculty members in their areas of specialization and gain valuable professional experience **teaching** in courses on the languages, literature, and culture of the ancient world. Additional work may be done in allied fields such as *archaeology, art history, linguistics, comparative literature, history, philosophy, and political science*. Affiliated faculty in many of these fields regularly offer courses, supervise theses and dissertations, and participate in department activities.

A wide range of **professional networks** provides graduate students with enhanced opportunities for education and career development. In addition to faculty connections to scholars and institutions in their fields of study, the department has formal affiliations with the Society for Classical Studies, the Classical Association of the Middle West and South, the American School of Classical Studies in Athens, the Society of Biblical Literature, and the American Schools of Oriental Research.

The Pillinger Library and Mansoor Reading Room, both located within the department, provide convenient access to a large number of texts, while the larger Greek and Latin Reading Room in the Memorial Library contains an extensive, noncirculating research collection of texts and commentaries. The Memorial Library maintains an excellent research collection of books and periodicals in classics and Hebrew bible, with many of its resources available online. It also boasts a rich collection of papyri in Greek and other ancient languages. In addition, the Chazen Museum enriches our research and teaching with its holdings of vases, mosaics, coins, and other objects from the ancient world.