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. Students may follow one of two courses of study, classical languages and literatures (Classics), or Hebrew bible.

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, 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.

Students apply to the Ph.D. in Classical and Ancient Near Eastern Studies through one of the named options:


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**FUNDING**

**GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES**

Resources to help you afford graduate study might include assistantships, fellowships, traineeships, and financial aid. Further funding information (https://grad.wisc.edu/funding) is available from the Graduate School. Be sure to check with your program for individual policies and processes related to funding.

**PROGRAM RESOURCES**

The Department of Classical and Ancient Near Eastern Studies works to support all graduate students in good standing who continue to make satisfactory progress toward their degree. The department makes every attempt to distribute its resources as fairly as possible outside of guaranteed support offers. Thus, it is the department’s intention to give the maximum number of graduate students in the Classics and Hebrew Bible programs an opportunity to hold teaching assistantships (TA) consistent with the department’s needs and criteria. It should be remembered that teaching funds are variable, depending on budget and class enrollments. All students are encouraged to pursue opportunities for support outside the department at all stages of their study. Details can be found below.

**TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS**

Criteria: Teaching assistant appointments will be offered to eligible graduate students on the basis of the following criteria: contractual obligations made to the student, satisfactory progress towards degree, satisfactory student evaluations and faculty teaching observations, departmental judgment of the student’s qualification to teach scheduled courses, and availability of budgeted positions.

Eligibility: To be eligible to become a teaching assistant, graduate students should ordinarily meet the following requirements: students should be enrolled in the Classics or Hebrew Bible graduate program (exceptions will be made due to lack of qualified or available students), students should be making satisfactory progress towards an advanced degree, and students should not have exceeded the limited allotment of teaching within the department (five years after the B.A. or three years after the M.A.).

Students who are non-native speakers of English must complete the SPEAK test for assessing English proficiency. The SPEAK test is the institutional version of the Test of Spoken English (TSE), which is administered by the Educational Testing Service. The SPEAK test measures oral proficiency and is frequently used to evaluate the spoken English of international TAs. The test is available only to students holding or under consideration for a teaching assistantship. For information and scheduled tests, please consult the English as a Second Language website (http://www.english.wisc.edu/esl). Students must achieve a score of 45 or higher before being placed in the classroom.

Class Assignments: Class assignments are made by the department chair in consultation with department faculty with consideration of the following items in order of importance: previous positive assessment of teaching ability, fair rotation of teaching among qualified graduate students, background and experience of the TA in course materials, the
need for graduate students to have a variety of teaching experiences, the preference of the TA, and the preference of the instructor.

Training Program: All TAs are required to attend the department’s annual Graduate Student Orientation and Teaching Assistant Workshop. Subjects discussed in the department’s annual workshop include preparation, organization, sensitivity to ethnic and gender issues, and pedagogical methods. Experienced TAs are encouraged to share successful teaching methods and ideas with the group in an open discussion. Information is also provided on such university resources as the Writing Center.

New TAs are also required to attend the L&S Teaching Assistant Workshop and the Graduate Assistants Equity Workshop within the first two semesters of teaching appointments. In addition, for TAs with a first-time Comm B appointment, the Writing Across Campus Comm B Training workshop will also be required. TAs are also encouraged to take advantage of the writing workshops offered by the Writing Center at the start of the academic year and throughout each semester.

For each course, the TA must meet with the professor to outline the goals and objectives of the course, the exam and grading procedures, the syllabus and assigned readings, and specific pedagogical methods appropriate for the course. The syllabus of each course should include the name, office number, and phone number, of the supervising professor, the TA, and the current department chair. Should there be concerns about the course that the TA feels unable to address, he or she can refer students to the professor in charge of the course for initial consultation. Regular meetings between the TA and the professor are held throughout the semester to discuss the progress and success of the course.

Review: Within the first few weeks of class, the supervising professor will observe the TA, with new TAs being a priority. After the visit, the professor will discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the class and put forward a set of recommendations for further teaching development. A written evaluation, to be discussed in person, is then provided to the department chair and will be placed in the student’s file. If the chair deems necessary, a second faculty member will make an additional classroom observation with a written evaluation. At the end of each semester or course, student evaluations for the TA classes are to be completed and kept on file in the department for future reference.

Workload/Percentage of Appointment: Teaching assistantship appointments are percentage based. The percentage of appointment is based on the total expected hours of work throughout the course of the semester. For example, a 33% TA would be expected to work a total of 240 hours over the semester, which is roughly 13 hours per week. The CANES department has teaching appointments that range from 33.4% to 50% time depending on the course assigned.

Each TA will receive a breakdown of expected workload with their official appointment letter. The TA is expected to review and discuss the workload with the supervising faculty member of the course. By signing and returning the workload to the department administrator, the TA is accepting his or her appointment for the semester.

Stipend & Benefits: The current pay rate for a full-time beginning TA is about $31,300 per year. The approximate stipend for a 33.4% position is roughly $5225 per semester.

All graduate assistantships at or above 33.4% include full tuition remission, a full array of benefits including health insurance, and office space within the department. Spring teaching appointments also carry summer tuition remission.

DEPARTMENTAL TRAVEL SUPPORT

Eligibility Guidelines: The CANES department can provide some funding for Classics students who are presenting a paper addressing a topic in the classics field or interviewing for hire. Applicable conferences include the ASA and CAMWS, but other conferences such as graduate student colloquia will also be considered. First time recipients of this award may be asked to present a departmental Pillinger Talk in preparation for their conference presentation.

All applications for department travel must be supported by satisfactory progress in the student’s program. Graduate students may submit one request for travel support to the department per academic year. Every attempt will be made to fund student travel up to a maximum of $750. Students should recognize that funding is based on availability. The Fellowships Committee will assess the validity of all applications and determine the amount of each individual award if granted.

Before requesting travel funds from the department, graduate students should conduct due diligence to learn about and apply for travel awards offered by other units (Graduate School, ASM, etc.) at UW–Madison and by sponsors of the event for which travel funds are requested. Evidence of awards applied for and/or received should accompany all requests for department travel funding. Being competitive for awards outside the department is a matter of professional development.

Application: Having applied for travel awards and supplements from external sources, students should then petition the CANES department for travel support. All petitions are considered on a case by case basis and evaluated on the basis of academic merit and satisfactory progress in the graduate program.

Petitions should take form of a letter addressed to the chair of the graduate Fellowships Committee detailing the title of the talk, proof of acceptance, the date and place of the conference, and any other relevant information. All petitions should include a budget and should disclose details of awards or denial of funding from other sources.

Awards from other sources will not necessarily disqualify students from classics department funding. The applications will be read and voted on by the committee which will attempt to respond to requests in a timely fashion. The student will be notified in writing by the chair of the committee normally within a few weeks of the submission of application.

Since applications will be read on a rolling basis and funds are usually more plentiful at the beginning of the year, students are encouraged to apply early.

SCHOLARSHIPS & FELLOWSHIPS

Adams-Lemoine Dissertation Fellowship: This fellowship is awarded in memory of C.K. Adams, Professor of Latin & History and University of Wisconsin President from 1892 to 1902, and Fannie Lemoine, Professor of Latin from 1906 to 1923. The Adams-Lemoine Fellowship is utilized for student recruitment or completion of degree. It provides tuition remission, a stipend, and benefits in accordance with published University award amounts. Award periods vary and funding may be available for one or two semesters of study.

Moses S. Slaughter Fellowship: This fellowship is awarded in memory of Moses S. Slaughter, University of Wisconsin Professor of Latin from 1906 to 1923. The Slaughter Fellowship is given to a current or incoming
graduate student who maintains Wisconsin residency. It provides tuition remission, a stipend, and benefits in accordance with published university award amounts and may supply funding for one or two semesters of study.

**Frank R. Kramer Summer Fellowship:** A predoctoral summer research grant awarded in memory of Dr. Frank R. Kramer, who earned a B.A. in Humanities in 1929, an M.A. in Greek & Latin in 1931, and a Ph.D. in Classics in 1936. The Kramer Fellowship is meant to enable graduate students in their second year of study or above (pre-dissertation) to receive support for research connected to the advancement of their studies in Classics. Calls for applications typically come out in December and recipients are notified in late January. Award totals range between $750-$2,000.

**Hieronimus Prize for Greek Composition:** This monetary award is given in memory of Professor John Paul Hieronimus (Ph.D. '31). Entrants are asked to translate a selected passage into ancient Greek or compose an original piece in ancient Greek addressing a specific topic. Awards are given in late spring.

**Pillinger Prize for Latin Composition:** This monetary award is given in memory of Assistant Professor Hugh Edward Pillinger (1965–70). Entrants are asked to translate a selected passage into Latin or compose an original piece in Latin addressing a specific topic. Awards are given in late spring.

**OTHER FUNDING OPTIONS**
The Graduate School provides additional information helpful to graduate students in need of funding.

Find information about:

Types of funding available ([https://grad.wisc.edu/studentfunding/types](https://grad.wisc.edu/studentfunding/types))

How to search for funding ([https://grad.wisc.edu/studentfunding/steps](https://grad.wisc.edu/studentfunding/steps))

Funding for international students ([https://iss.wisc.edu/students/new-students//funding-scholarships](https://iss.wisc.edu/students/new-students/funding-scholarships))

General funding resources on campus ([https://grad.wisc.edu/studentfunding/resources](https://grad.wisc.edu/studentfunding/resources))

- Center for Jewish Studies ([https://jewishstudies.wisc.edu/students/scholarships](https://jewishstudies.wisc.edu/students/scholarships))

External funding options ([https://grad.wisc.edu/funding/fellowships](https://grad.wisc.edu/funding/fellowships)) (includes some prizes & modest awards) (found near the bottom of the page)

- American Council of Learned Societies ([https://www.acls.org/programs/comps](https://www.acls.org/programs/comps))
- Archaeological Institute of America ([https://www.archaeological.org/grants](https://www.archaeological.org/grants))
- Classical Association of the Middle West and South ([https://camws.org/awards](https://camws.org/awards))
- Dolores Zohrab Liebmann Fund ([http://fdnweb.org/liebmann](http://fdnweb.org/liebmann)) (specific to Armenian studies)
- Gorgias Press ([https://www.gorgiaspress.com/awards](https://www.gorgiaspress.com/awards))
- Society for Classical Studies ([https://classicalstudies.org/awards-fellowships](https://classicalstudies.org/awards-fellowships))

Conference presentation funds ([https://grad.wisc.edu/studentfunding/grantscomp/conference](https://grad.wisc.edu/studentfunding/grantscomp/conference))

**RESEARCH TRAVEL AWARDS**
Research travel awards ([https://grad.wisc.edu/studentfunding/grantscomp/research](https://grad.wisc.edu/studentfunding/grantscomp/research)) available through the Graduate School

Albright Institute of Archeological Research ([http://www.aiar.org/available-fellowships](http://www.aiar.org/available-fellowships))

American Academy in Rome ([http://www.aarome.org/apply/affiliated-fellowships](http://www.aarome.org/apply/affiliated-fellowships))

- Rome Prize ([http://www.aarome.org/apply](http://www.aarome.org/apply))
- American Center of Oriental Research ([http://www.acorjordan.org/about-acor-fellowships/#1473242438101-4bc0afd9-e672](http://www.acorjordan.org/about-acor-fellowships/#1473242438101-4bc0afd9-e672))
- American Council of Learned Societies ([http://www.acls.org/programs/comps](http://www.acls.org/programs/comps))
- Biblical Archaeological Society Dig Scholarships ([http://digs.bib-arch.org/scholarships](http://digs.bib-arch.org/scholarships))
- Chateaubriand Fellowship ([https://www.chateaubriand-fellowship.org](https://www.chateaubriand-fellowship.org))
- Classical Association of the Middle West and South ([https://camws.org/awards](https://camws.org/awards))
- Getty Foundation ([http://www.getty.edu/foundation/apply](http://www.getty.edu/foundation/apply))
- Harvard Society of Fellows ([http://socfell.fas.harvard.edu/about](http://socfell.fas.harvard.edu/about))
- Lady Davis Fellowship Trust ([http://ldft.huji.ac.il](http://ldft.huji.ac.il))
- The Palestine Exploration Fund ([http://fdnweb.org/grants](http://fdnweb.org/grants) (specific to Armenian studies)
- Royal Historical Society ([http://royalhistorsoc.org/grants/research-expenses/research-expenses-for-overseas-students-guidelines](http://royalhistorsoc.org/grants/research-expenses/research-expenses-for-overseas-students-guidelines))
- Mary Isabel Sibley Fellowship
- Society for Classical Studies ([https://classicalstudies.org/awards-fellowships](https://classicalstudies.org/awards-fellowships))
The department annually offers graduate fellowship support and teaching assistantships. In order for incoming students to be considered for fellowships, applications and all other materials should reach the department by January 5.

REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum academic progress and degree requirements (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/policiesandrequirementstext), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

Note: The major is currently non-admitting. Students are admitted through one of the named options (sub-majors) below (p. 4).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mode of Instruction Definitions</th>
<th>Face to Face</th>
<th>Evening/Weekend</th>
<th>Online</th>
<th>Hybrid</th>
<th>Accelerated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Yes</strong></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mode of Instruction Definitions

- **Evening/Weekend**: These programs are offered in an evening and/or weekend format to accommodate working schedules. Enjoy the advantages of on-campus courses and personal connections, while keeping your day job. For more information about the meeting schedule of a specific program, contact the program.
- **Online**: These programs are offered primarily online. Many available online programs can be completed almost entirely online with all online programs offering at least 50 percent or more of the program work online. Some online programs have an on-campus component that is often designed to accommodate working schedules. Take advantage of the convenience of online learning while participating in a rich, interactive learning environment. For more information about the online nature of a specific program, contact the program.
- **Hybrid**: These programs have innovative curricula that combine on-campus and online formats. Most hybrid programs are completed on-campus with a partial or completely online semester. For more information about the hybrid schedule of a specific program, contact the program.
- **Accelerated**: These on-campus programs are offered in an accelerated format that allows you to complete your program in a condensed time-frame. Enjoy the advantages of on-campus courses with minimal disruption to your career. For more information about the accelerated nature of a specific program, contact the program.

CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

Requirements Detail

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minimum Residence Credit Requirement</th>
<th>36 credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Minimum Coursework Requirement

See either the Ph.D. named option in Classics (https://next-guide.wisc.edu/graduate/classical-ancient-near-eastern-studies/classical-ancient-near-eastern-studies-classics-phd/#requirementstext) or Hebrew Bible (https://next-guide.wisc.edu/graduate/classical-ancient-near-eastern-studies/classical-ancient-near-eastern-studies-hebrew-bible-phd/#requirementstext) for the requirement information.

Overall Graduate GPA Requirement

See either the Ph.D. named option in Classics (https://next-guide.wisc.edu/graduate/classical-ancient-near-eastern-studies/classical-ancient-near-eastern-studies-classics-phd/#requirementstext) or Hebrew Bible (https://next-guide.wisc.edu/graduate/classical-ancient-near-eastern-studies/classical-ancient-near-eastern-studies-hebrew-bible-phd/#requirementstext) for the requirement information.

Other Grade Requirements

The Graduate School requires an average grade of B or better in all coursework (300 or above, not including research credits) taken as a graduate student unless conditions for probationary status require higher grades. Grades of Incomplete are considered to be unsatisfactory if they are not removed during the next enrolled semester.

Assessments and Examinations

See either the Ph.D. named option in Classics (https://next-guide.wisc.edu/graduate/classical-ancient-near-eastern-studies/classical-ancient-near-eastern-studies-classics-phd/#requirementstext) or Hebrew Bible (https://next-guide.wisc.edu/graduate/classical-ancient-near-eastern-studies/classical-ancient-near-eastern-studies-hebrew-bible-phd/#requirementstext) for the requirement information.

Language Requirements

See either the Ph.D. named option in Classics (https://next-guide.wisc.edu/graduate/classical-ancient-near-eastern-studies/classical-ancient-near-eastern-studies-classics-phd/#requirementstext) or Hebrew Bible (https://next-guide.wisc.edu/graduate/classical-ancient-near-eastern-studies/classical-ancient-near-eastern-studies-hebrew-bible-phd/#requirementstext) for the requirement information.

Doctoral Minor / Breadth Requirements

All doctoral students are required to complete a minor. Students may not complete a minor with the same name as their named option.

REQUIRED COURSES

Select a Named Option (p. 4) for courses required.

NAMED OPTIONS (SUB-MAJORS)

A named option is a formally documented sub-major within an academic major program. Named options appear on the transcript with degree conferral. Students pursuing the Ph.D. in Classical and Ancient Near Eastern Studies must select one of the following named options:

View as list
View as grid
Policies

Graduate School Policies

The Graduate School's Academic Policies and Procedures (https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy) provide essential information regarding general university policies. Program authority to set degree policies beyond the minimum required by the Graduate School lies with the degree program faculty. Policies set by the academic degree program can be found below.

Major-Specific Policies

Graduate Program Handbook

A Graduate Program Handbook containing all of the program’s policies and requirements is forthcoming from the program.

Prior Coursework

Graduate Work from Other Institutions

With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 9 credits of graduate course work from other institutions. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master’s degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

UW–Madison Undergraduate

See either the Ph.D. named option in Classics (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/classical-ancient-near-eastern-studies/classical-ancient-near-eastern-studies-phd/classical-ancient-near-eastern-studies-classics-phd/#policies) or Hebrew Bible (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/classical-ancient-near-eastern-studies/classical-ancient-near-eastern-studies-hebrew-bible-phd/#requirements) for the policy information.

UW–Madison University Special

With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 9 credits of course work numbered 300 or above taken as a UW–Madison University Special student. Coursework earned ten or more years prior to admission to a doctoral degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements. UW–Madison coursework taken as a University Special student would not be allowed to count toward the 50% graduate coursework minimum unless taken at the 700 level or above.

Probation

The Graduate School regularly reviews the record of any student who earned grades of BC, C, D, F, or Incomplete in a graduate course (300 or above), or grade of U in research credits. This review could result in academic probation with a hold on future enrollment or in being suspended from the Graduate School.

1. Good standing (progressing according to standards; any funding guarantee remains in place).
2. Probation (not progressing according to standards but permitted to enroll; loss of funding guarantee; specific plan with dates and deadlines in place in regard to removal of probationary status).
3. Unsatisfactory progress (not progressing according to standards; not permitted to enroll, dismissal, leave of absence or change of advisor or program).

Advisor / Committee

See either the Ph.D. named option in Classics (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/classical-ancient-near-eastern-studies/classical-ancient-near-eastern-studies-phd/classical-ancient-near-eastern-studies-classics-phd/#policies) or Hebrew Bible (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/classical-ancient-near-eastern-studies/classical-ancient-near-eastern-studies-hebrew-bible-phd/#requirements) for the policy information.

Credits Per Term Allowed

15 credits

Time Constraints

A candidate for a doctoral degree who fails to take the final oral examination and deposit the dissertation within 5 years after passing the preliminary examination may be required to take another preliminary examination and to be admitted to candidacy a second time.

Doctoral degree students who have been absent for ten or more consecutive years lose all credits that they have earned before their absence. Individual programs may count the coursework students completed prior to their absence for meeting program requirements; that coursework may not count toward Graduate School credit requirements.

Other

All applications received by Jan. 5 are eligible for fellowship, scholarship, and graduate assistantship opportunities. For applications received after the deadline, applicants will not be eligible for a university fellowships or scholarships, although you may be eligible for department funds such as teaching assistantships, project assistantships, research assistantships, or department fellowship.

Professional Development

Graduate School Resources

Take advantage of the Graduate School’s professional development resources (https://grad.wisc.edu/pd) to build skills, thrive academically, and launch your career.
**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

1. Articulates research problems, potentials, and limits with respect to theory, knowledge, or practice in the field of Classics or Hebrew Bible.
2. Formulates ideas, concepts, and approaches beyond the current boundaries of knowledge within Classics or Hebrew Bible.
3. Creates research and scholarship that makes a substantive contribution.
4. Demonstrates breadth within their learning experiences.
5. Advances contributions of Classics or Hebrew Bible to society.
6. Communicates complex ideas in a clear and understandable manner.
7. Fosters ethical and professional conduct.

**PEOPLE**

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

- **William Aylward**: Greek and Roman archaeology
- **Jeffrey Beneker**: Biography and historiography; Roman Republic
- **Jeffrey Blakely**: Biblical and ancient Near Eastern archaeology
- **William Brockliss**: Homer; Latin and Greek pedagogy
- **Alex Dressler**: Ancient philosophy; gender and sexuality
- **Jeremy M. Hutton**: Hebrew Bible; Northwest Semitics
- **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
- **Vanessa Schmitz-Siebertz**: Latin Instructor
- **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
- **Jordan Rosenblum**: Rabbinic Judaism; biblical interpretation; food and religion
- **Claire Taylor**: Greek socio-economic history; Athenian democracy; epigraphic culture

**EMERITUS FACULTY**

- Barry Powell
- Ronald L. Troxel

**ACADEMIC STAFF**

- Bill Bach, Department Administrator
- Toni Landis, Advisor/Student Services Coordinator