WHY STUDY CLASSICAL STUDIES AND ANCIENT HISTORY?

Who was Cleopatra? How were the pyramids built? Why are we still so fascinated with Greek mythology?

The cultures and histories of the ancient Mediterranean world are yours to explore. Discover the literature, art, and archaeology of Egypt, Greece, and Rome. Investigate their politics, religion, gender, and sexuality, as well as our modern reception of them. The ancient world is still with us; how will it influence your future?

“The history and cultures of ancient Egypt, Greece and Rome have inspired countless generations and continue to do so. They have served as cross-cultural touchstones and examples for some, and legacies to be critiqued and reckoned with by others.”

Lisa Bailey
Associate Professor

CAREER POSSIBILITIES

With a focus on teaching research skills, critical analysis, interpretation of evidence, argument construction, persuasive writing, oral communication, and independent thought, our graduates are valuable assets in any field. Former students now work in media and television, politics, government, technology, fraud detection, teaching, conservation, museums, art, academia, historical preservation and advertising.

“I have enjoyed working with the Curators and Collection Managers who have kaitiaki responsibility for the amazing encyclopaedic collections in the Museum’s care, as well as meeting and working with the communities who have an association with those collections. “Never underestimate the value of a good research degree, those are skills you can’t learn anywhere else.”

Elizabeth Cotton
Director Museum and Arts, Waikato Museum

Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Ancient History
Master of Arts in Ancient History

*Renamed to Classical Studies and Ancient History

auckland.ac.nz/arts/classical-studies-ancient-history
WHAT CAN I STUDY?
You have the chance to study genres like epic, tragedy, comedy, and love poetry, to explore Egyptian art and religion from a non-Western perspective, engage with the archaeology of the ancient Mediterranean world, or to meet famous figures such as Alexander the Great, or Cleopatra. You can also discover the Latin, Greek and Hieroglyphic languages.

Get excited about your course options:

Stage 1 Course*
ANCIENT 110 - Classical Mythology
A study of ancient mythology – its gods, heroes and monsters – through the works of major writers and artists from Greece and either Rome or Egypt.

Stage 2 Course*
ANCIENT 216 - Sex and Power in Greece and Rome
Many Greek and Roman literary works and historical sources deal with sex and power. This course will explore a range of ancient literary representations of women, men, femininity, masculinity, sexual practices and sexual prejudices. Students will study how ancient authors were influenced by the socio-political context and the constraints of different literary genres.

Stage 3 Course*
ANCIENT 314 - Special Topic: Ancient Barbarians and Others
This course examines the history of the idea of the barbarian in the ancient world, case-studies of late Roman barbarian kingdoms such as the Vandals and Goths, and modern receptions of ancient ideas about barbarians and barbarity from the nineteenth century to the present.

Courses you could study*
- Roman History
- Early Egypt
- Introduction to Latin Language 1 or 2

Complementary majors include:
Classical Studies and Ancient History
+ Anthropology
English
History
Latin

“We are not so different, humanity has changed little since its ancient past. Much of the ideas, attitudes and concerns of the ancient world have trickled through the centuries to inform modernity.”

Samantha Optican
Student: Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Classical Studies and Ancient History + English

*Course availability may be subject to change.
For a full list of courses and up-to-date information visit the Arts website. Published August 2023

For enrolment information visit:
auckland.ac.nz/askus