Ancient Studies

The Ancient Studies program has been discontinued, but students who matriculated before October 2006 will be able to complete their degree as planned. Those students should consult with the Master of the Humanities Collegiate Division (HM 228).

Program of Study

The program in Ancient Studies is a site for two different types of intellectual projects: the comparison of two or more ancient cultures along some general thematic problem or theme that they share (e.g., the effects of urbanization); or the study of cultural interrelation or interaction between one or more ancient cultures in the same historical period (e.g., the competition and collaboration of Greek and Persian cultures in Western Anatolia in the fifth century B.C.E.). The category “ancient cultures” is defined with different chronological parameters in different areas: in Africa, the Mediterranean basin, Mesopotamia, and South Asia, “ancient” means pre-Islamic; in East Asia, “ancient” means pre-Song Dynasty; and in South and Central America, “ancient” means pre-Columbian.

Program Requirements

The program requires twelve courses on two or more ancient cultures, plus the B.A. Paper Seminar (ANST 29800) in which students complete a B.A. paper. Of the total thirteen courses, three must be in an ancient language and one must be the Ancient Studies Seminar (ANST 27100). This seminar is offered annually on a changing thematic topic of relevance to most of the ancient cultures studied in the program. Examples include “The Introduction of Writing and Literacy,” “The Power of Images,” and “Imperial Systems: Center and Periphery.”

Summary of Requirements

- 3 three quarters of an ancient language at any level
- 1 Ancient Studies Seminar (ANST 27100)
- 8 courses cross listed in Ancient Studies in the history, law, philosophy, language, literature, religion, art, or archaeology of two or more different ancient cultures, with no more than five courses in the same culture
- 1 B.A. Paper Seminar (ANST 29800)
- B.A. paper
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**B.A. Paper.** Candidates for the B.A. degree in Ancient Studies are required to write a substantial B.A. paper. The purpose of the B.A. paper is to enable students to improve their research and writing skills and to give them an opportunity to focus their knowledge of the field upon an issue of their own choosing. By fifth week of Spring Quarter of their third year, students must submit to the Director of Undergraduate Studies a short statement proposing an area of research. This statement must be approved by a member of the Ancient Studies core faculty (see following section) who agrees to supervise the B.A. paper. At the same time, students should meet with the preceptor of the B.A. seminar to plan a program of research.

During Autumn Quarter of their fourth year, students are required to register for the B.A. Paper Seminar (ANST 29800). During the seminar they discuss research problems and compose preliminary drafts of their papers. Participants in the regular seminar meetings are expected to exchange criticism and ideas with each other and with the preceptor, as well as to take account of comments from their faculty readers. The grade for the B.A. seminar is identical to the grade for the B.A. paper and, therefore, is not reported until the B.A. paper has been submitted in Spring Quarter. The grade for the B.A. paper depends on participation in the seminar as well as on the quality of the paper.

The deadline for submitting the B.A. paper in final form is Friday of fifth week of Spring Quarter. This deadline represents the final, formal submission, and students should defend substantial drafts much earlier. Copies of the paper are to be submitted both to the faculty supervisor and to the seminar preceptor. Students who fail to meet the deadline may not be able to graduate in that quarter and will not be eligible for honors consideration.

**Honors.** To be eligible for honors, students must have (1) a GPA of 3.0 or higher overall and 3.5 or higher in the major and (2) a grade of A on the B.A. paper.

**Advising.** Each student will have a program adviser who is a member of the core faculty (see following section). The program adviser will, in many cases, become the supervisor for the B.A. paper. By Spring Quarter of their second year, each student is expected to have designed a program of study and to have submitted it to his or her program adviser and the Director of Undergraduate Studies. There are no specific requirements about the distribution of the eight main courses, beyond limiting them to courses cross listed as Ancient Studies courses, and beyond the stipulation that two or more different cultures must be studied and that there be no more than five courses in the same culture. Individual program advisers and the Director of Undergraduate Studies will see to it that each student is exposed to as many as possible of the methodologies or areas of evidence that are generally summarized above as “history, law, philosophy, language, literature, religion, art, or archaeology.” Courses in ancient languages beyond the program requirement can be used to meet both course and distribution requirements. General education sequences cannot, however, be used to meet course requirements in this area, but
they can (upon appeal to the Director of Undergraduate Studies) be used to meet the distribution requirement that two or more ancient cultures be studied.

**Grading.** Courses may be taken on a P/F basis with consent of instructor except that students majoring in Ancient Studies must receive quality grades in all courses aimed at meeting the requirements of the degree program.

**Faculty**
D. Allen, M. Dietler, H. Dik, P. Dorman, C. A. Faroone, M. Fishbane, 
T. Frymer-Kensky, M. Gibson, G. Gragg, J. Hall, D. Harper, J. Johnson, N. Kouchoukos, 
B. Lincoln, K. D. Morrison, I. Mueller, R. S. Nelson, M. C. Nussbaum, D. Pardee, 
S. Pollock, J. Redfield, R. K. Ritner, M. Roth, R. Saller, D. Schloen, E. Shaughnessy, 

**Courses: Ancient Studies (ANST)**

**20200. Archaic Greece.** (=ANCM 37506, CLAS 37506, CLCV 27506, HIST 20303/30303) For course description, see History. *J. Hall.* Winter.

**20700-20800-20900. Ancient Mediterranean World I, II, III.** Available as a three-quarter sequence (Autumn, Winter, Spring) or as a two-quarter sequence (Autumn, Winter; or Winter, Spring). This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies. For course description, see History. *Autumn, Winter, Spring.*

**21200. History and Theory of Drama I.** (=CLAS 31200, CLCV 21200, CMLT 20500/30500, ENGL 13800/31000, ISHU 24200/34200) May be taken in sequence with ENGL 13900/31100 or individually. For course description, see English Language and Literature. *End-of-week workshops, in which individual scenes are read aloud dramatically and discussed, are optional but highly recommended. D. Bevington.* Autumn.


21605. Introduction to Islamic Archaeology. (=NEHC 20501/30501) For course description, see Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations (Near Eastern History and Civilization). D. Whitcomb. Autumn.


23200. History of Philosophy I: Ancient Philosophy. (=CLCV 25000, PHIL 25000) PQ: Completion of the general education requirement in humanities. For course description, see Philosophy. G. Lear. Autumn.


24506. Alexander the Great. (=CLCV 24506, HIST 20802) The exploits of Alexander the Great have fascinated historians since the end of the third century B.C. This course provides an introduction not only to the history of Alexander’s reign, but also to the main historiographical traditions (both ancient and modern) that shape our view of his legacy. Texts in English. C. Hawkins. Winter, 2007.


27100. Ancient Studies Seminar. (=CLCV 27100) The content of this annual seminar changes, but its focus is the interdisciplinary exploration of general themes across ancient societies. Its aim is to teach students how to combine historical, literary, and material evidence in their study of the ancient world. Spring.


29700. Reading Course. PQ: Consent of faculty sponsor and Director of Undergraduate Studies. Students are required to submit the College Reading and Research Course Form. Autumn, Winter, Spring.

29800. B.A. Paper Seminar. Students register for one quarter. Participation is required in both quarters. This seminar is designed to teach students research and writing skills necessary for writing their B.A. paper. Lectures cover classical bibliography, research tools, and electronic databases. Students discuss research problems and compose preliminary drafts of their B.A. papers. They are expected to exchange criticism and ideas in regular seminar meetings with the preceptor and with other students who are writing papers, as well as to take account of
comments from their faculty readers. The grade for the B.A. seminar is identical to the grade for the B.A. paper and, therefore, is not reported until the B.A. paper has been submitted in Spring Quarter. The grade for the B.A. paper depends on participation in the seminar as well as on the quality of the paper. *Autumn, Winter.*