Program of Studies

The concentration 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 concentration requires twelve courses on two or more ancient cultures and the B.A. Seminar (ANST 29800) in which students complete a B.A. paper. Of the twelve 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

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<tr>
<th>Concentration</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>three quarters of an ancient language in addition to completion of the College language requirement (this language need not, however, be the same as the language used to meet that requirement)</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
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<td>Ancient Studies Seminar (ANST 27100)</td>
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<td>8</td>
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<td>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</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>B.A. Seminar (ANST 29800)</td>
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<td>B.A. paper</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Total requirements: 13 courses.</td>
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B.A. Paper. Candidates for the B.A. degree in the Ancient Studies concentration are required to write a substantial B.A. paper. The purpose of the B.A. paper is to enable concentrators 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 the fifth week of Spring Quarter of the third year, concentrators must submit to the Director of Ancient 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, concentrators should meet with the preceptor of the B.A. seminar to plan a program of research.

During Autumn Quarter of the fourth year, concentrators are required to register for the B.A. seminar. During the seminar they discuss research problems and compose preliminary drafts of their papers. They are expected to exchange criticism and ideas in regular seminar meetings with the preceptor and with other students 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 the 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. Honors will be awarded to any student with a 3.0 or higher cumulative GPA overall, a 3.5 or higher cumulative GPA in the concentration, and 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 Ancient 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 Ancient 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 Ancient Studies) be used to meet the distribution requirement that two or more ancient cultures be studied.
Grading. Courses may be taken on a P/N or P/F basis with the permission of the individual instructor except that students concentrating in Ancient Studies must receive letter grades in all courses aimed at meeting the requirements of the degree program.

Faculty


Courses

20700-20800-20900. Ancient Mediterranean World I, II, III. Available as a three-quarter sequence or as a two-quarter sequence (Autumn, Winter; or Winter, Spring). This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies. For course descriptions, see History. This sequence is offered in alternate years. Offered 2002-03; not offered 2003-04.


21200. History and Theory of Drama I. (=CMLT 20500/30500, ENGL 13800/31000, GSHU 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, D. N. Rudall. Autumn.

21300-21400-21500 History of the Ancient Near East I, II, III. (=NEHC 20001-20002-20003/30001-30002-30003) Available as a three-quarter sequence 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 Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations (Near Eastern History and Civilization). Autumn, Winter, Spring.


23200. History of Philosophy I: Ancient Philosophy. (=CLCV 22000, PHIL 25000) PQ: Completion of the general education requirement in humanities. For course description, see Philosophy. R. Barney. Autumn.
23301-23302-23303. Near Eastern Civilization I, II, III. (=NEHC 20211-20212-20213/30211-30212-30213) PQ: Completion of the general education requirement in social sciences. May be taken in sequence or individually. This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies. For course descriptions, see Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations (Near Eastern History and Civilization).


27100. Ancient Studies Seminar. (=CLCV 37100) 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, 2003.

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. Seminar. 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 the 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.