Classics explores the literature, cultures, and archaeological remains of ancient Mediterranean and Middle Eastern worlds, from Rome to Greece, Egypt, Israel and beyond. Here students learn Arabic, Greek, Hebrew, or Latin, and together with faculty, analyze and interpret ancient texts, societies, and material culture. Students find that study of the ancient Mediterranean sheds much light on contemporary problems, concepts, and values. Students may choose from three tracks through the classics major or minor: civilization, languages or archaeology. All majors explore the ancient Mediterranean and Middle East using methods from across the liberal arts, but each student designs a curricular path through the parts of the ancient world which most capture their imagination.

Faculty
Beth Severy-Hoven, professor and chair, has a PhD from the University of California–Berkeley, and degrees from Oxford and Bryn Mawr College. Her research focuses on Rome in the Age of Augustus and the history of gender and sexuality. She has taught in Rome at the Intercollegiate Center, and at Macalester she teaches Women, Gender, and Sexuality in Ancient Greece and Rome; Roman World; as well as Greek and Latin courses. She directs the January in Rome program and helped develop the program in Egypt.

Wessam El-Meligi, visiting assistant professor, has a PhD from the University of Alexandria in Egypt, studied at the University of Edinburgh and was a Fulbright Scholar twice. He was chair of the languages department at Alexandria University and helped establish the translation programs at Pharos University, the Arab Maritime Academy and Filière des Langues Appliquées. He taught at the Applied Linguistics Graduate Institute and Middlebury College study abroad program in the Middle East before coming to Macalester. Professor El-Meligi is the core of the Arabic language program and helped develop the January in Egypt program. He also teaches topics courses such as Frencemies: The Caliphate and Byzantine Empire; and Rhyming Worlds: Hebrew and Arabic Poetry in Translation. His research interests focus on comparative Middle Eastern and Western literature and range from Pre-Islamic to modern literature and art.

Nanette Scott Goldman, senior lecturer, specializes in Latin poetry as well as documentary and literary texts from the Greco-Roman Near East. Her current research focuses on Jewish literature of crisis in the Second Temple period and Medieval Hebrew poetry. Professor Goldman coordinates the Hebrew language program and teaches all levels of Greek, Latin and Hebrew, as well as research seminars in classical literature and archaeology. She is a supervisor at the Omrit archaeological excavation in Israel and, with departmental colleagues Severy-Hoven and Overman, runs January studies abroad in Italy, Turkey and Egypt.

Brian Lush, associate professor, received his PhD in classics from the University of Wisconsin–Madison in 2008. His research addresses the theme of tragic dissonance and seeks to cast light upon Euripidean instances of intellectual, social and dramatic tension. Such moments in Euripides’ dramas raise questions and invite meaningful consideration of such fundamental issues as identity, politics, myth, ritual, epistemology, perception and even tragedy itself. His published work has drawn upon such critical perspectives as narratology, rhetorical analysis, close reading, psychology (specifically, combat trauma and PTSD), political ideology, anthropology, and post-structuralist criticism. He teaches courses in ancient Greek and Latin language, and courses in translation, Greek history, civilization and myth.

Andrew Overman, Harry M. Drake Distinguished Professor in the Humanities and Fine Arts, specializes in religion, culture, and ethnicity in the Greco-Roman world, having earned a PhD at Boston University. His courses include Pagans, Christians, and Jews; India and Rome; Introduction to Archaeology; and Early Arab and Persian Empires. He directs Macalester’s archaeological excavations and conservation field school in Israel, which began in 1999.

Recent Topics Courses
Topics courses are taught as curriculum enrichment and change from year to year. Recent examples include:
- The Ancient Greek Polis—Real and Ideal Conflict in Middle East Seminar: Peace and Conflict in Israel, Palestine and Syria
- The Crusades
- Frenemies: Caliphate and Byzantine Empire in Late Antiquity
- Introduction to Museum Studies
- Roman Art
- Tenors in Togas: Greek and Roman Myth in Opera
- Urban History from Late Antiquity to the Later Middle Ages

Honors Projects
Senior classics majors regularly participate in the honors program and work closely with faculty members on research projects. A recent honors project by Kayla Sivak-Reid ’16 (Coeur d’Alene, Idaho) was “Tracing a State and its Language from Province to Republic: Translations of Modern Egypt’s Constitution.”
Awards
Martine Cartier '18 (Ashville, N.C.) received a U.S. Department of State Critical Language Scholarship to study Arabic in Meknes, Morocco.
Alejandra Carrillo '15 (Dearborn, Mich.) received a Fulbright Scholarship for a binational business program award involving Mexico.
Irene Gibson '15 (Carmel, Ind.) received a Fulbright research grant to study in Kuwait.

Study Abroad
Study abroad is a critical aspect of the classics program, and it is required for majors. Every semester has found Macalester students living and studying abroad in the Intercollegiate Center in Rome, College Year in Athens, CIEE (Council on International Educational Exchange) Jordan, or at various campuses in Egypt, Morocco, Turkey, Spain, Scotland, and Ireland. Students study with Macalester faculty in Italy, Turkey, or Egypt in January, and the department conducts a summer archaeological project in northern Israel that is open to all Macalester students.

Internships
Annika Sanora '18 (Peoria, Ariz.), Office of Minnesota Senator Alice Johnson, legislative intern
Bo-Sung Kim '17 (Cheonan Chungnam, South Korea), College Possible, grant writing and research intern
Robert Lin '17 (Arlington, Mass.), St. Paul Federation of Teachers, student intern
Francesco Nutricato '17 (Modena, Italy), Exploration Summer Programs, banking intern
Robert Lin '17 (Arlington, Mass.), St. Paul Federation of Teachers, student intern
Francesco Nutricato '17 (Modena, Italy), Exploration Summer Programs, banking intern
Ben Shields '17 (Manhattan, Kan.), Israeli Antiquities Authority, artifact conservation laboratory intern
Zoe Bowman '16 (Eau Claire, Wis.), International Red Cross Red Crescent, media and youth intern
Duncan Griffin '16 (Fort Worth, Texas), Eastside Freedom Library, cataloguing intern
Emily TahaBurt '16 (Annapolis, Md.), Mizna: Prose, Poetry and Art Exploring Arab America programming intern

After Macalester
David Goldstein '16 (Brookline, Mass.) works for the Defense Department in Washington, D.C.
Trey Muraoka '16 (Honolulu) is pursuing a master’s in Latin at the University of Minnesota.
Katherine Reilly '16 (Omaha, Neb.) is pursuing a master’s in classical languages at the University of Colorado—Boulder.
Elliott Averett '15 (Baker City, Ore.) is a police officer in Seattle.
Irene Gibson '15 (Carmel, Ind.) is pursuing a master’s in international relations at Oxford University.
Megan Renslow '15 (Moorhead, Minn.) is attending law school at the University of Wisconsin—Madison.
Paul Schuring '15 (Gilbert, Ariz.) is pursuing a master’s at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary.
Rebecca Boylan '14 (Houston) is pursuing a PhD in classics at the University of Wisconsin—Madison.
Salman Haji '14 (Albuquerque, N.M.) is a Pickering Fellow at the State Department in Washington, D.C.
Jiaochen Ke '14 (New York) is attending medical school at the University of Minnesota.
Rachel Biesse '13 (Marrakesh, Morocco) is completing post-baccalaureate studies in pre-medicine at the University of Montreal.
Alyssa Cady '13 (Portland, Ore.) is pursuing a PhD in religion at Princeton University.
Max Edwards '13 (Rochester, Minn.) is pursuing a master's in Jewish studies at Harvard Divinity School.
Eliza Spertus '13 (St. Paul) is a farm manager at Green Dirt Farm in Kansas City, Mo.
Eve Woogen '13 (Minneapolis) is a school success program assistant at Minneapolis Public Schools.
Lindsay Morehouse '12 (Hopkins, Minn.) is pursuing a PhD in archaeology at the University of Amsterdam.
Stephen Davis '11 (Minneapolis) is Minnesota market manager at Surly Brewing Company.
James Mayer '11 (Houston) is pursuing a law degree at New York University.
Joseph D. Glattman Zaretsky '10 (New York) is a senior analyst for the Advisory Board Company, in Washington, D.C.
David Wheeler ’09 (Eden Prairie, Minn.) is pursuing a PhD in Egyptology at the University of California—Berkeley.
Rachel Katsura ’08 (Mankato, Minn.) is director of alumni relations at University of California—San Francisco.
Jill Smolevitz ’08 (Chicago) is a general surgeon in Chicago.
Eli Weavendyck ’07 (Ann Arbor, Mich.) received a Pritchett Fellowship for the PhD program in ancient history and Mediterranean archaeology at the University of California—Berkeley.
Dhruva Jaishankar ’06 (Delhi, India) is a Fellow for Foreign Policy at the Brookings Institution, India.
Emilie Minnick ’06 (Astoria, N.Y.) is a child protection specialist at UNICEF in Jakarta, Indonesia.
Sophie Lowry ’05 (Edinburgh, Scotland) is an administrator for the Centre for the Advanced Study of the Arab World at the University of Edinburgh.
Daniel W. Leon ’02 (Urbana, Ill.) is an assistant professor of classics at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

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