

# Department of Classics

## About the department

The Classics Department is a centre of excellence for both teaching and research. Our staff are international specialists who publish regularly in all branches of classical literature, ancient history, philosophy, art and archaeology. A wide selection of modules is available to visiting students from language work to literary, historical, archaeological and philosophical topics. **The following is a complete list of all the Classics modules available to Visiting Students.** If there are issues on which you have questions which are not addressed here, you will have an opportunity to raise them with Dr Efi Spentzou [E.Spentzou@rhul.ac.uk](mailto:E.Spentzou@rhul.ac.uk), your personal advisor.

## Entry requirements

The modules listed below are open to all Study Abroad, International and Erasmus students, subject to any required previous knowledge or qualifications, as stated in the module outlines below.

Each module is either 15 or 30 UK Credits and starts in either the Autumn Term (September) or the Spring Term (January). When the college timetable finalises in September, it may become necessary to change/swap a module due to a clash either with another chosen module within Classics or, more often, with other chosen modules from other Departments. In such a case, the Classics Advisor will offer advice and guidance on possible alternative Classics modules from the present list.

*The information contained in the module outlines on the following pages is correct at the time of publication but may be subject to change as part of our policy of continuous improvement and development.*



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## Module options for visiting students

Module code	Module name	UK Credits	Start date	Module description/pre-requisites
<i>Level 1 modules</i>				
CL1705	Beginner's Greek	Full year (30 credits), or Term 1 (15 credits CL1705V).	September 2021	An introduction to the ancient Greek language. <a href="#">Syllabus Information</a> - <a href="#">Syllabus 15 credit version</a>
CL1715	Intermediate Greek	Full year (30 credits), or Term 1 (15 credits CL1715V).	September 2021	Students must have a background of study of Greek. A module intended to extend the students' knowledge of Greek to the point where they are ready to read substantial texts. <a href="#">Syllabus Information</a> - <a href="#">Syllabus 15 credit version</a>
CL1755	Beginner's Latin	Full year (30 credits), or Term 1 (15 credits CL1755V).	September 2021	An introduction to the Latin language for complete beginners, intended to bring them to a point where they can read simple texts in Latin. <a href="#">Syllabus Information</a> - <a href="#">Syllabus 15 credit version</a>
CL1765	Intermediate Latin	Full year (30 credits), or Term 1 (15 credits CL1765V).	September 2021	Students must have a background of study of Latin. A module intended to extend the students' knowledge of Latin to the point where they are ready to read substantial texts. <a href="#">Syllabus Information</a> - <a href="#">Syllabus 15 credit version</a>



## Module options for visiting students

CL1530	Introduction to Greek Literature	15 credits	September 2021	An introductory historical and critical survey of classical Greek literature from Homer to the end of paganism, with texts studied in translation. <a href="#">Syllabus Information</a>
CL1534	Roman Literature of the Empire	15 credits	January 2022	An introductory module studying Roman literature produced under the Julio-Claudian emperors, with specific considerations of issues such as the impact of the Principate and civil war on literature; how to write history after Augustus; whether we should take love poetry seriously; the Roman theatre of cruelty; and whether the Romans invented the novel. Authors to be considered are Livy, Ovid, Seneca the younger, Petronius and Lucan, with reference to select works in translation. <a href="#">Syllabus Information</a>
CL1550	Greek History and the City State	15 credits	September 2021	An introductory module examining Greek history, society, and institutions from the beginning to the late fourth century B.C., with particular attention to the problems and methods of reconstructing the past from ancient sources, the historical context of Greek literature, and the development of the city-state. <a href="#">Syllabus Information</a>
CL1560	Key Themes in Roman History	15 credits	January 2022	An introductory module dealing with the history and the political, social and economic institutions of Rome. The module covers the full chronological range of Roman historiography from the Republic to the Empire to establish certain broad characteristics of periods. Themes will include: Early Rome: Traditions and the City State; The Republic Emerges; From City State to Empire; The Fall of the Republic; Imperial Monarchy; Imperial Society and Social Forms; Late Antiquity: A Transformed World; The Fall of Rome and the Emergence of the Medieval World. <a href="#">Syllabus Information</a>



## Module options for visiting students

CL1580	Introduction to Greek Archaeology	15 credits	September 2021	<p>The main aim of the module is to familiarise students with the material culture of Greek civilisation from the Bronze Age to the Hellenistic period. The principal forms of Greek art and architecture, with their stylistic development and social context, will also be covered. Throughout the module we shall consider different archaeological theories and interpretations and their relationship with Greek archaeology.</p> <p><a href="#">Syllabus Information</a></p>
CL1581	Introduction to Roman Archaeology	15 credits	January 2022	<p>The module aims to familiarize students with the principal forms of Roman material culture (architecture, painting and mosaics, statuary, sarcophagi, coins, metal-ware, glass and pottery) from the 2nd century BC to the early 4th century AD, and with past and current theories regarding their use as evidence of political intellectual, social and economic life in the Roman Empire.</p> <p><a href="#">Syllabus Information</a></p>



## Module options for visiting students

Module code	Module name	UK Credits	Start date	Module description/pre-requisites
<b>Level 2 Modules</b>				
CL2705	Intensive Greek	Full year (30 credits), or Term 1 (15 credits CL2705V).	September 2021	An introduction to the ancient Greek language. <a href="#">Syllabus Information - Syllabus 15 credit version</a>
CL2715	Intermediate Greek	Full year (30 credits), or Term 1 (15 credits)	September 2021	Students must have a background of study of Greek. A module intended to extend the students' knowledge of Greek to the point where they are ready to read substantial texts. <a href="#">Syllabus Information</a>
CL2755	Intensive Latin	Full year (30 credits), or Term 1 (15 credits).	September 2021	An introduction to the Latin language for complete beginners, intended to bring them to a point where they can read simple texts in Latin. <a href="#">Syllabus Information</a>
CL2765	Intermediate Latin	Full year (30 credits), or Term 1 (15 credits).	September 2021	Students must have a background of study of Latin. A module intended to extend the students' knowledge of Latin to the point where they are ready to read substantial texts. <a href="#">Syllabus Information</a>



## Module options for visiting students

CL2827	Latin Epic (Advanced Latin literature in the original language)	Full year (30 credits), or Term 1 (15 credits CL2827V).	September 2021	Students must have a background of study of Latin (at least three years' experience). This module is based on close study, in the original Latin, of texts from Roman epic, as well as a broad overview of other Latin epic poems in translation. We will consider issues of narrative, characterisation, literary models and antecedents, historical context, philosophical influences, contemporary attitudes and ideological messaging. The provisional texts for this year are a book of Lucan's <i>Pharsalia</i> and Statius' <i>Achilleid</i> . <a href="#">Syllabus Information</a> - <a href="#">Syllabus 15 credit version</a>
CL2436	Homer (in translation)	Full year (30 credits), or Term 1 only or Term 2 only (15 credits CL2436V).	September 2021 and/or January 2022	Students must have taken a related course at their home institution and have some knowledge of the Classical world. Term 1 – Iliad Term 2 – Odyssey A study of the <i>Iliad</i> and the <i>Odyssey</i> , consisting of close study of the text and of broad themes, and of the historical and artistic background. <a href="#">Syllabus Information</a> - <a href="#">Syllabus 15 credit version</a>
CL2xxx	Life in the Big City: Urban Archaeology in the Graeco-Roman World	Full year (30 credits), or Term 1 (15 credits CL2XXXV).	September 2021	Students must have taken a related course at their home institution and have some knowledge of the Classical world. The module seeks to provide you with a detailed understanding of urban archaeology and urban life in the Graeco-Roman world. The aim is to introduce you to the wide range of material cultural that has survived from ancient cities and highlight the diversity of ancient urban experiences. The module content will <i>cover topics such as urban layout and amenities, domestic spaces, public spaces, urban defences, harbours and burial spaces</i> .



## Module options for visiting students

CL2448	Power and the Individual in Ovid's <i>Metamorphoses</i> (in translation)	15 credits	January 2022	Students must have taken a related module at their home institution and have some knowledge of the Classical world. The course will start with an overview and appreciation of the new epic code in Ovid's <i>Metamorphoses</i> : what is at stake intellectually, artistically, politically. Weekly sessions will concern themselves with issues and themes such as: • What is metamorphosis? • Story telling • The Artist in the poem • Love in the epic • Gender and transgression • Subverting the epic genre • Politics and Rome. The text will be studied in English translation. <a href="#">Syllabus Information</a>
CL2488	Empire and its Others in Virgil's <i>Aeneid</i> (in translation)	15 credits	September 2021	Students must have taken a related course at their home institution and have some knowledge of the Classical world. An enigmatic giant of the Western library canon, Virgil's <i>Aeneid</i> offers a host of treasures to every reader. This course is based on the close study, in English translation, of the <i>Aeneid</i> and assumes no prior knowledge of the poem or its author. The set text will be the focus of our study and we will spend much of our time probing the poem and teasing out meaning through close reading and discussion. The course aims to give you the opportunity to get to grips with this foundational poem for Rome and to form your own thoughts and opinions about the text. <a href="#">Syllabus Information</a>
CL2352	Greek History to 322BC	Full year (30 credits), or Term 1 (15 credits CL2352V).	September 2021	Students must have a basic knowledge of Greek History. This course covers Greek political and social history from Homer to Alexander, from the emergence of classical Greek civilisation and institutions in the ninth century BC to the break-up of the classical Greek world at the hands of Macedon. <a href="#">Syllabus Information</a> - <a href="#">Syllabus 15 credit version</a>



## Module options for visiting students

CL2363	Augustus	Full year (30 credits), or Term 1 only or Term 2 only (15 credits CL2363V).	September 2021/January 2022	<p>Students must have a basic knowledge of Roman history. This is a course on ends and beginnings: the end of a Republic that had last nearly five centuries and the beginning of an Empire that was to rule much of the Mediterranean world for a further five centuries. It is a story of often extraordinary violence and brutality and about the brute nature of political power. For all the fine words that historians have devoted to Augustus, violence and money lie at the heart of the regime. The course looks at the poetry and the architecture, the fine words, and fine deeds, but explores the dark heart of Augustan and Roman politics.</p> <p><a href="#">Syllabus Information</a> – <a href="#">Syllabus Information 15 credit version</a></p>
CL2815	Plato (Advanced Greek literature in the original language)	Full year (30 credits), or Term 1 only or Term 2 only (15 credits CL2815V).	September 2021/January 2022	<p>Students must have a background of study of Greek (at least three years' experience). We translate the text and discuss matters of style, content and context. Students will be expected to prepare the text in advance each week and to give at least one short class oral presentation in English, which also forms the basis for one part of the assessment. The text we'll be studying is Plato's <i>Symposium</i> in the Cambridge University Press edition edited by K.J. Dover</p> <p><a href="#">Syllabus Information</a> – <a href="#">Syllabus Information 15 credit version</a></p>

