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Classics Course Information Sheet for entry in 2025

Classics (*Literae Humaniores*) is a wide-ranging degree devoted to the study of the civilisations of ancient Greece and Rome and their reception into modern times. It is one of the most varied and interdisciplinary of all subjects. Classics students at Oxford have the opportunity to study the languages, literature, history, and archaeology of the Greek and Roman Mediterranean, as well as philosophy (both ancient and modern) and linguistics.

Oxford has the largest Classics Faculty in the world, with over sixty full-time academic staff-members. It has outstanding teaching, library and museum resources. Resources include the [Bodleian Art, Archaeology and Ancient World Library](#) and [Bodleian Libraries](#), the [Ashmolean Museum](#) and a designated Classics Centre.

The breadth of expertise in the Faculty allows us to offer an extremely wide range of courses from Homeric archaeology to Byzantine literature. The length of the course allows students to explore the various disciplines within this vast subject and to engage with their particular interests within the classical world in real depth.

The course involves extensive study of at least one ancient language, but candidates do not need to have any prior knowledge of either Greek or Latin.

In previous years Oxford offered two separate Classics degree programmes: Classics Course I (Q800) - for those who had studied Latin and/or Greek to A-level or equivalent, and Classics Course II (Q810) – for those who had not studied Latin or Greek to A-level or equivalent. Following a redesign of the degree structure, there is now just one degree programme (Classics – Q800) which is for all candidates, whether or not they have any prior experience of Latin or Greek. Those with an A-level or equivalent in at least one classical language will follow a dual-language stream (Latin and Greek); those without can choose to follow either a Latin or Greek stream.

Fieldwork/work placements/international opportunities

Fieldwork is not a requirement in any part of the course, but some undergraduates may participate in archaeological excavations.

A typical week

Your time is divided between lectures, tutorials and private study. The working week is typically structured around two tutorials in different subjects.

Most of your independent work will be in preparation of essays for your tutorials, although systematic language-learning and reading of texts will also require considerable time and effort.

Much of the teaching will take place in your college, but lectures are given in the Classics Faculty and the Examination Schools, and for particular subjects you may also work with tutors from other colleges.

Visit the [Classics website](#) for more information.

Tutorials in colleges usually involve up to three students and a tutor. Class sizes will vary depending on the options you choose, and there are usually 5-10 students in a class. Some classes are jointly taught by two tutors at the same time. For centrally organised language classes in Classics, there are usually 8-10 students in a group.

Most tutorials, classes, and lectures are delivered by senior staff who are active researchers in their subject. Many are world-leading experts with years of experience in teaching and research. Some teaching may be delivered by postgraduate students at doctorate level.

To find out more about how our teaching year is structured, visit our [Academic Year](#) page.

Course structure

LANGUAGE STREAM	TERMS 1-5 COURSES	TERMS 1-5 ASSESSMENTS
<p>Dual Language Stream (Latin and Greek, for those who have studied Latin and/or Greek to A-level or equivalent)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greek Literature selection • Latin Literature selection • A special subject in Philosophy (ancient or modern) • A classical special subject: historical, archaeological or philological • Greek and Latin language work at the appropriate level 	<p>First University examinations: nine papers, including four language papers. One of the papers is examined by a portfolio of three pre-submitted essays.</p>
<p>Latin stream (Latin only, for those who have not studied Greek or Latin to A-level or equivalent)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greek literature selection (in translation) • Latin literature selection • A special subject in Philosophy (ancient or modern) • A classical special subject: historical, archaeological or philological • Latin language work 	<p>First University examinations: six papers, including two language papers. One of the papers is examined by a portfolio of three pre-submitted essays</p>



<p>Greek Stream (Greek only, for those who have not studied Latin or Greek to A-level or equivalent)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greek literature selection • Latin literature selection (in translation) • A special subject in Philosophy (ancient or modern) • A classical special subject: historical, archaeological or philological • Greek language work 	<p>First University examinations: six papers, including two language papers. One of the papers is examined by a portfolio of three pre-submitted essays.</p>
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LANGUAGE STREAM	TERMS 6-12 COURSES	TERMS 6-12 ASSESSMENTS
<p>Dual-language stream (Latin and Greek, for those who have studied Latin and/or Greek to A-level or equivalent)</p>	<p>Choose eight options from more than 80 in the following subjects (it is usually possible to offer an undergraduate thesis in place of one paper):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greek and Roman history (up to five): some are period papers, others topic-based • Philosophy (up to five): numerous ancient and modern options; up to four can be in modern Philosophy 	<p>Eight exam subjects taken, with the possibility of offering one paper as a thesis. For some literature options: instead of a three-hour paper, assessment involves the composition of one long essay over a three-week period</p> <p>The options listed here are illustrative and may change. A full list of current options is available on the Classics website.</p>
<p>Latin Stream (Latin only, for those who have not studied Greek or Latin to A-level or equivalent)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greek and Latin literature (up to five) • Greek and Roman archaeology (up to two, plus a thesis if you wish) 	<p>Final University examinations: as dual-language stream, but Latin only, unless you take optional second classical language</p>
<p>Greek stream (Greek only, for those who have not studied Latin or Greek to A-level or equivalent)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Philology and Linguistics (up to two, plus a thesis if you wish) • opportunities for more language acquisition by 	<p>Final University examinations: as dual-language stream, but Greek only, unless you take optional second classical language</p>

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	studying the other ancient language at Greats	
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The University will seek to deliver this course in accordance with the description set out above. However, there may be situations in which it is desirable or necessary for the University to make changes in course provision, either before or after registration. For further information, please see the University's [Terms and Conditions](#).

Fees

These annual fees are for full-time students who begin this undergraduate course here in 2025.

Information about how much fees and other costs may increase is set out in the University's Terms and Conditions.

Please note that while the University sets out its annual fees as a single figure, this is a combined figure for both your University and college fees. More information is provided in your [Terms and Conditions](#).

Fee status	Annual Course fees
Home (UK, Republic of Ireland, Channel Islands & Isle of Man)	£9,535
Overseas (including most EU students – see Note below)	£41,130

Note: Irish nationals living in the UK or Ireland, EU, other EEA, and Swiss nationals who have been granted settled or pre-settled status in the UK under the EU settlement scheme are eligible for 'Home fee' status and student loan support, subject to meeting residency requirements. We will contact you directly if we need further information from you to determine your fee status.

Please refer to the [Undergraduate fee status](#) pages for more information.

Living costs

Living costs for the academic year starting in 2025 are estimated to be between £1,425 and £2,035 for each month you are in Oxford. Our academic year is made up of three eight-week terms, so you would not usually need to be in Oxford for much more than six months of the year but may wish to budget over a nine-month period to ensure you also have sufficient funds during the holidays to meet essential costs. For further details please visit our [living costs webpage](#).

Living costs breakdown

	Per month		Total for 9 months	
	Lower range	Upper range	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£330	£515	£2,970	£4,635
Accommodation (including utilities)	£790	£955	£7,110	£8,595
Personal items	£200	£335	£1,800	£3,015
Social activities	£45	£100	£405	£900

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	Per month		Total for 9 months	
Study costs	£40	£90	£360	£810
Other	£20	£40	£180	£360
Total	£1,425	£2,035	£12,825	£18,315

In order to provide these likely living costs (which are rounded to the nearest £5), the University and the Oxford SU conducted a living costs survey to complement existing student expenditure data from a variety of sources, including the UK government's Student Income and Expenditure Survey and the National Union of Students (NUS).

The current economic climate and high national rate of inflation make it very hard to estimate potential changes to the cost of living over the next few years. When planning your finances for any future years of study in Oxford beyond 2025-26, it is suggested that you allow for potential increases in living expenses of around 4% each year – although this rate may vary depending on the national economic situation.

[Additional Fees and Charges Information for Classics](#)

There are no compulsory costs for this course beyond the fees shown above and your living costs.