Why study Classics at Reading?
Unravel the past, make sense of the present, and shape the future with Classics.

We love to share our passion for the ancient world and its legacy with our students. Discover the fascinating wealth of history, literature, art, languages, and culture of the ancient world with us in a welcoming, supportive, and lively community.

We help prepare you for the work place
Our graduates are enthusiastic, confident, inquisitive minds, resistant to face value, cultured and articulate, independent thinkers – in short: valuable, highly employable members of society. We will prepare you for future employment through dedicated prospects and placement modules, modules in entrepreneurship and museum studies, and exciting volunteer opportunities, for example at our very own Ure Museum of Greek Archaeology. We have long-standing links with local schools if you are interested in teaching, and we build on our ever-growing alumni network to support our current and future students.

Our academic excellence
We are keen to involve our students in our research. Many of our modules are unique to Reading and reflect the range of our interests, e.g. Greece and Egypt, Anatolia and the Aegean, Macedon, Greek political thought, Ancient technology, or Roman cities. We encourage enquiry-based learning, and our modules foster independent student research. The high standard of our teaching has often been recognised, most recently by the award of an Early Career Teaching Fellowship to one of our colleagues for the development of state-of-the-art digital resources.

Who will be teaching you and how?
Reading’s Classics Department is home to experts in Greek language, literature and culture; ancient religions; Roman social, economic and architectural history; material culture; reception studies; Greek and Roman drama; ancient linguistics. You will therefore be taught by world-leading researchers, and you will enjoy a range of teaching styles, including lectures, small group seminars, and individual or group projects. We are always approachable, supportive, and enthusiastic. If you want to learn, or continue with, the ancient languages, Latin and Ancient Greek, you will benefit from our small-group teaching.
How we help our students’ development

Studying means more than just reading for a degree. It means personal development, making new friends, pursuing extracurricular activities, and getting to know the world. We offer various opportunities to go abroad, e.g. via travel grant competitions or a module with the British School at Athens. We also organise study trips to Rome or Athens. You can work at the Ure Museum, or help to run a Minimus Latin club at a local school. Moreover, our students benefit from the University’s Undergraduate Research Opportunities Programme, which pays students for collaborating with academics on research projects.

Facilities that enrich the student experience

Our inspirational teaching environment is enriched by a number of first-rate facilities: the Department owns the Ure Museum of Greek Archaeology, the fourth-largest collection of Greek ceramics in the UK. Every student in the Department will have the opportunity to handle artefacts from the ancient world. We have a dedicated departmental resources room, providing our students with study space, a collection of printed resources, and access to electronic resources. The Main Library as well as Reading’s Special Collections offer an excellent collection for undergraduate learning and research. This can be supplemented through a convenient and quick inter-library loan service as well as access to nearby research libraries in London and Oxford, both of which are a mere 30 minutes train ride away from Reading.

For more information …

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