

CLASSICS

What can I do with this major?

AREAS

EMPLOYERS

STRATEGIES

EDUCATION

Teaching
Research
Administration
Student Affairs Including:
 International Education/Study Abroad
 Academic Advising
 Admissions
 Student Support Services
Library and Information Services
English as a Second Language Instruction

Universities and colleges
Elementary and secondary schools, public
 and private
Professional language schools

Earn a Ph.D. for college/university teaching or a graduate degree in college student affairs or library/information science for other university positions.
Learn the certification process for teaching K-12.
 Acquire certification in additional subject areas for increased job possibilities.
Maintain a high grade point average and develop strong recommendations from faculty.
Seek research opportunities.
Take as many classes in the original languages as possible. Study abroad or travel internationally.
Get involved on campus as a tutor, resident assistant, orientation leader, admissions guide, etc.

THE ARTS

Administration/Management
Archival Work
Education
Research
Translation
Museum Work: Curatorship, Conservation,
 Restoration
Design: Period, Exhibit, Costume, Set
Development/Fundraising
Appraisal

Museums including:
 Public, private, university
Art galleries
Antique dealerships
Art councils
Historical societies and sites
Archives
Libraries
Public research agencies
Private foundations
Theatrical companies

Minor in art history or take other relevant courses.
Develop excellent writing and communication skills.
Volunteer or intern in an art or historical museum.
Earn a graduate degree in museum studies, art history, library/information science, or other related field.
Maintain a high grade point average and develop strong recommendations from faculty.
Be prepared to relocate to areas with higher concentrations of art-related employers.

NONPROFIT

Administration
Research
Grant Writing
Development/Fundraising
Programming
Volunteer Coordination

Nonprofit organizations
Social service organizations
Churches and religiously affiliated groups

Volunteer or intern with social service organizations.
Learn to work well with people of diverse backgrounds.
Develop excellent communication skills.
Take a course in grant writing.
Join a service organization or get involved in community service projects.

AREAS

EMPLOYERS

STRATEGIES

GOVERNMENT

Administration
Research
Policy Analysis
Lobbying
Legislative Services
Program Management
Cultural Resource Management
Translation/Interpreting
Foreign Service
Library and Information Services

State and local government
Federal government including: Department of State, Civil Rights Commission, Department of Education, Federal Trade Commission, Government Printing Office, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Labor, Library of Congress, National Labor Relations Board, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Department of Transportation
Public Archives
Libraries

Learn federal, state, and local job application process. Seek assistance from the campus career center.
Take additional courses or earn a minor in area of interest.
Gain relevant work experience through government internship programs.
Earn a master's or professional degree in a related field to qualify for the most job opportunities.
Get involved in campus leadership roles.
Develop excellent written and oral communication skills.

COMMUNICATIONS

Technical Writing
Editing
Copywriting
Journalism
Research
Translation

Publishers
Magazines
Newspapers
TV stations
Film companies
Internet sites
Advertising agencies

Develop excellent writing and research skills.
Take courses in applicable areas such as English, technical writing, or journalism.
Gain related work experience by completing an internship.
Develop a portfolio of writing samples.
Write for campus or community newspapers or websites.
Learn appropriate computer software packages or programming languages.

BUSINESS/INDUSTRY

Customer Service
Management
Sales
Human Resources
Public Relations
Importing and Exporting
Finance
Consulting
Technical Writing
Insurance Underwriting and Claims Management

Business corporations in various industries including:
Retailers
Banks and financial institutions
Insurance firms
Hospitality and tourism related organizations
Consulting firms

Many businesses hire students of "any major" if they have relevant experience and have developed the skills employers seek.
Minor in business or another relevant field.
Obtain related experience through internships, summer, and part-time jobs.
Develop strong technical and analytical skills.
Learn to work well on a team.
Get involved in campus organizations and seek leadership roles.
Learn how to sell the skills associated with a classics major, such as analytical and communication skills and critical thinking, to employers.

AREAS

EMPLOYERS

STRATEGIES

LAW

See also What Can I Do With a Major in Law?

Law Assistance

Prosecution

Defense

Contractual

Corporate

Nonprofit or Public Interest

Government

Mediation

Lobbying

Law firms

Federal, state, and local government

Corporations

Public interest organizations

Private practice

Colleges and universities

Develop strong research skills and attention to detail.

Participate in a debate or forensic team to hone communication skills.

Take courses in and gain experience with mediation and conflict resolution.

Get involved with pre-law organizations.

Obtain a summer or part-time job in a law firm.

Shadow an attorney to learn more about the field and various specialties.

Complete special training requirements for paralegal positions.

Attend law school and earn a J.D. to become an attorney. Maintain an excellent grade point average and secure strong faculty recommendations to gain law school admittance. Prepare to take the LSAT.

MEDICINE

See also What Can I Do With a Major in Medical Fields?

Medicine

Dentistry

Optometry

Podiatry

Pharmacy

Allied Health Including:

Occupational Therapy

Physical Therapy

Hospitals

Medical centers and clinics

Nursing homes

Private practice

Armed services

Government agencies

Plan on attending medical school or other related graduate program. Alternative undergraduate degrees may be preferred by some medical schools.

Take applicable prerequisites for medical or professional school and maintain an excellent grade point average, particularly in the sciences.

Meet with a pre-health advisor periodically.

Seek experiences in hospital or healthcare settings through volunteering, shadowing, part-time positions, or internships.

Get involved in campus organizations and take leadership roles.

Secure strong faculty recommendations.

Prepare for applicable graduate admission exams, e.g. the MCAT or GRE.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Classics is an interdisciplinary major useful for cultivating verbal, written, and logical reasoning skills and for broadening one's world view. Classics majors often develop strong analytical and critical thinking skills valued by many types of employers and graduate programs. Latin and Greek language training is particularly helpful for learning legal and medical terminology.
- An undergraduate major is adequate for entry-level positions in communications, business, government, or nonprofit. Develop a career goal, and gain the appropriate experiences, skills, and credentials to qualify for those types of positions.
- Seek experience in your interest area through internships, summer or part-time work, or volunteer positions.
- Develop excellent writing and research skills.
- Join organizations such as The American Classical League or The American Philological Association to establish a professional network.
- Study and/or travel abroad to contribute to your understanding of the field.
- Pursue graduate education in classics for increased opportunities. Plan to specialize in one area such as Latin and Greek, classical literature, classical archaeology, or classical civilization.
- A classics major serves as good preparation for graduate study in other analytical subjects such as law, anthropology, medieval studies, philosophy, history, or English, and for research or practice in religion. Consider combining study in the classics with a major or minor in another discipline to maximize opportunities.
- Secure strong relationships and personal recommendations from professors, and become familiar with the specific entrance exam for graduate or professional schools.
- Conduct informational interviews with professionals in jobs of interest to learn about their career fields and to build a network of contacts.