

CLASSICS

What have GVSU students done with this major?

Selected Undergraduate Research Outcomes in the Department of Classics, 2007-2011

2011

NICK MAKI

- Refereed conference paper: "Beyond Pleasure: Plato and the Good," delivered at the Western Canadian Undergraduate Conference of Philosophy at the University of Victoria, British Columbia.

Presently applying to graduate school in Classics and Ancient Philosophy.

2010

MARK BECKWITH

- Honors Senior Project: "Focus on Forms in the Latin Classroom."
- Peer-reviewed publication, with Prof. Peter Anderson: "Forms-Focused Teaching for the Intermediate Latin Student," in Teaching Classical Languages 2.1 (2010) 31-52.
- 2010 Honors Senior Project Award for Excellence in Collaborative Research.
- 2011 Outstanding Undergraduate Student, Secondary Education Department, GVSU College of Education.

Accepted position as Latin instructor at Cardigan Mountain School, Canaan, New Hampshire.

MELANIE COUGHLIN

- Classical Tradition project: "Ovidian Views on Gender During the Early Roman Empire."

Matriculated to the M.A. program in Applied Anthropology at the University of South Florida.

2010 (continued)

JONATHAN HATTER

- Honors Senior Project: "Every-man's Orthodoxy: An Exploration of the Poemata Arcana of Gregory of Nazianzus."

Matriculated to the M.A. program in Early Christian Studies at the University of Notre Dame.

2009

DONNA ST. LOUIS

- Honors Senior Project: "Martial and Piron: A Study in Epigram."
- 2009 Manson A. Stewart Scholarship, Classical Association of the Middle West and South (CAMWS).
- 2010 GVSU Niemeyer Student Award recipient.

Matriculated to the Post-Baccalaureate Program in Classics at the University of Pennsylvania.

TIMOTHY FLANDERS

- Honors Senior Project, with Jonathan Hatter, "Doctrina Iacobi Nuper Baptizati: A Translation."

Accepted an AmeriCorps position with CampFire USA mentoring and tutoring at-risk youth in the Grand Rapids Public Schools.

JENNIFER FOLKERTH

- Refereed conference paper: "Memory's Catalyst: Nature in Sappho's Poetry," delivered at the annual meeting of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South (CAMWS).

Matriculated to postgraduate study in the School of Information at the University of Michigan.

2009 (continued)

KATE ALLEN

- Honors Senior Project: "Form and Function: A Study of Renaissance Commentaries and the Seidman Library's Calderinus Incunabulum."
- Refereed conference paper: "What's that smell?': Odor in Martial's Epigrammata," delivered at the 88th anniversary meeting of the Southern Section of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South (CAMWS-SS) at the University of North Carolina at Asheville.
- 2009 Outstanding Honors Senior Thesis Award.

Matriculated to the Ph.D. program in Classics at the University of Michigan.

MICHELLE LEMIEUX

- Honors Senior Project: "Is Aeneas truly pius?"

Matriculated to the College of Osteopathic Medicine at Michigan State University.

2008

DEVIN WHITE

- Honors Senior Project: "A Grammatical Commentary on St. John Chrysostom's Discourse on the Blessed Babylas Against the Gentiles."
- 2008 Outstanding Honors Senior Thesis Award.
- 2007 Student Summer Scholar (S3).

Matriculated to the M.T.S. program in the Candler School of Theology at Emory University; admitted to the Ph.D. program in Religion at Emory University.

2008 (continued)

JACQUELINE BINDER

- Honors Senior Project (jointly supervised with the Department of History): The influence of the classical tradition on American architecture in the upper Midwest.

Matriculated to the M.A. program in Architecture and Art History at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

2007

BRITTANY HUNTER

- Honors Senior Project: "Civis Romanus Sum: The Scope and Significance of Citizenship in the Roman Empire. A three-unit study designed for use in upper level high-school Latin classes."

Presently a software designer at Atomic Object, Grand Rapids.

AARON ROZEBOOM

- Honors Senior Project: "The Rhetorical Implications of Clementia in Cicero's Caesarian Speeches."
- 2005 McNair Scholar

Presently a wine specialist at Brown Derby International Wine Center, Springfield, Missouri.

RENEE MAYES

- Honors Senior Project: Curriculum resources on Roman cuisine for teaching classical civilization.

Accepted a position as a Latin instructor at Millbrook High School in Frederick County, Virginia; subsequently returned to Michigan in order to take up a job teaching Latin in the Ann Arbor Public Schools.

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

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.
Get involved on campus as a 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.
Be prepared to relocate to areas with higher concentrations of art-related employers.

GOVERNMENT

Administration
Research
Policy Analysis
Lobbying
Program Management
Translation
Foreign Language Teaching
Library/Information Services

State and local government
Federal government including: State Department, Civil Rights Commission, Education Department, EPA, Federal Trade Commission, Government Printing Office, Health and Human Services, Labor Department, Library of Congress, National Labor Relations Board, National Park Service, Departments of Transportation

Learn federal, state, and local job application process.
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.

AREAS

EMPLOYERS

STRATEGIES

NONPROFIT

Administration
Research
Grant Writing
Development
Programming

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 fraternity or get involved in community service projects.

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.
Learn appropriate computer software packages.

BUSINESS/INDUSTRY

Customer Service
Management
Sales
Human Resources
Public Relations
Importing and Exporting

Business corporations in various industries such as:
Banking, retailing, insurance, financial services,
travel, and tourism

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.

AREAS

EMPLOYERS

STRATEGIES

LAW

Law Assistance
Prosecution
Defense
Contractual
Corporate
Nonprofit or Public Interest
Government
Mediation
Lobbying

Law firms
Government agencies
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. Plan to take the LSAT.

MEDICINE

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.
- An undergraduate major is adequate for entry-level positions in fields such as communications, business, and government or community organizations.
- Develop a career goal and then 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, 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.
- Latin and Greek language training is particularly helpful for learning legal and medical terminology.
- Secure strong relationships and personal recommendations from professors, and become familiar with the specific entrance exam for graduate or professional schools.