CLASSICS (CLAS)

CLAS 2450 Classical Mythology — 4 credits
An introduction to the major myths of the gods and heroes of ancient Greece, along with their origins and interpretations. Because classical mythology played such an important role in the development of the arts in Western civilization, this course has a strong visual component, and every lecture is accompanied by slides. Also offered as INDI 2450 and LATN 2450. Fulfills the fine arts requirement. Offered in the College for Women and the College for Adults.

CLAS 2460 Ancient Greece — 4 credits
The Ancient Greeks present a paradox for our modern sensibilities. They invented democracy, but envisioned it as a system in which only elite male members of society were permitted to participate. The Greeks saw themselves as the champions of “freedom,” but their prosperity was built on the labor of slaves, most women were strictly confined to their homes, and it was permissible to kill girl babies or female members of the household for any reason. The Greeks believed themselves to be the upholders of civilization against the “Barbarians,” but the Persian “barbarians” they opposed were an elegant and sophisticated people who upheld religious freedom for all and prohibited slavery within their borders. Yet the Greeks also produced some of the most superb art and the finest achievements of literature that the world has ever seen. This course explores the history of ancient Greece from the Paleolithic through the onset of the Hellenistic era, with emphasis on art, literature and material culture, to try to form a coherent vision of this remarkable and self-contradictory people. Also offered as HIST 2460.

CLAS 2470 Ancient Rome — 4 credits
This course follows the history of Rome from prehistoric times through the rise and struggles of the Republic and into the early Empire up to the death of Marcus Aurelius, last of the "Five Good Emperors," in 180 CE. The two largest areas of focus will be on daily life in the Roman Republic (for which you will read one or more comic plays by the playwright Plautus) and the gripping saga of the five Julio-Claudian emperors (Augustus, Tiberius, Caligula, Claudius, and Nero), whose reigns we will explore through readings from the Roman historians Tacitus and Suetonius, as well as viewings of the BBC’s masterful “I, Claudius” series. Also offered as HIST 2470.

CLAS 2992 Topics — 2 credits
The subject matter of the course is announced in the annual schedule of classes. Content varies from year to year but does not duplicate existing courses.

CLAS 2994 Topics — 4 credits
The subject matter of the course is announced in the annual schedule of classes. Content varies from year to year but does not duplicate existing courses. Offered in the College for Women.

CLAS 2994W Topics — 2 credits
The subject matter of the course is announced in the annual schedule of classes. Content varies from year to year but does not duplicate existing courses.