March 30, 2010

TO: Mark Wollaeger, Chair, Committee on Educational Programs

FROM: Barbara Tsakirgis, Chair, Department of Classical Studies
       Daniel Solomon, DUS, Department of Classical Studies

SUBJ: Proposal for new major and minor in the Department of Classical Studies

Attached is a proposal for a new major and minor in the Department of Classical Studies.
The Department of Classical Studies proposes

1) to change the name of our third major program from “Ancient Mediterranean Studies” to “Classical Civilization”;
2) to remove the foreign language requirement from this third major program;
3) to create a new minor in “Classical Civilization,” likewise with no foreign language requirement.

**Rationale:**

In our former blueprint for the major, we stipulated second-semester language proficiency in the hope that students would be encouraged to progress to the intermediate level and beyond. But we now feel that students concentrating in this new major could more profitably apply those eight credit hours to three extra courses that explore ancient sources beyond the original texts, for a single year of Latin or Greek is simply not enough to engage the primary documents in a meaningful fashion anyway. The new major will prioritize the social movements and material culture of the ancient world; this will serve to more sharply distinguish “Classical Civilization” from “Classics,” which will retain its original emphasis on integrating textual with extra-textual evidence, for that major requires at least six hours of Latin and Greek at the 200 level.

Over the last two years, we have created eight new courses at the 200 level that require no knowledge of the ancient languages: CLAS 225 (“Humor, Ancient to Modern”), 226 (“Warfare in the Ancient World”), 240 (“The Trojan War in History, Art and Literature”), 241 (“Uncovering Greek Religion”), 242 (Archaeology, History, and Culture in Greece”), 243 (“Alexander the Great”), 295 (“Periclean Athens”) and 296W (“Augustan Rome”). Furthermore, the recent recruitment of three new faculty members (Jelinek, Lee, Robinson) in the Departments of Philosophy and History of Art who specialize in classical civilization has expanded the number of courses that would count towards the new major and minor.

Both the name change and the elimination of the language requirement would align us with other comparable Departments of Classical Studies, such as Duke, Emory, Tulane, University of Georgia, and University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. And we have removed the focus on Religious Studies from the wording of this major, because
eligible courses have been rarely offered in that department since the inception of the major.

Catalog changes:

CLASSICAL studies have always been the heart of a liberal education and offer the student unmatched perspectives within which to understand our own time. They show how our oldest beliefs and institutions came into being, and bring to life systems of values both different from and similar to our own. Courses are offered in the history, religion, art, philosophy, social and cultural issues, literature, and mythology of the ancient world. The curriculum covers 3,500 years of human experience in the ancient Near East, Greece, and Roman Europe, from the beginnings of Western civilization to the Christianization of Europe and the dawn of the Middle Ages.

Three major programs are offered. Students majoring in classics or ancient Mediterranean studies may take much of their work in courses on antiquity that require no knowledge of Greek or Latin. Students majoring in classical languages take their course work in Greek and/or Latin. Students majoring in classical languages approach the ancient world entirely through its literature, and they take all of their course work in Greek and/or Latin. Students majoring in classics, integrate the ancient texts with other kinds of evidence (sociology, religion, art, etc.), in order to compare the words of Greeks and Romans to their actions; they may apply any number of courses in Greek and/or Latin toward this major, as long as two language courses are at the advanced level. Students majoring in classical civilization receive the broadest introduction to the ancient world, and they read the primary sources in translation.

Majors in classical languages or classics are encouraged to spend a semester at the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome or Sicily. A summer program at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens is also available.

The Classics Society functions as the department’s extracurricular organization. Eta Sigma Phi is the national honorary society for classics.

Program of Concentration in Classical Languages
Students complete 32 hours in Greek and Latin. Those who want to concentrate in one language must also complete at least two semesters’ work in the other, although credit toward the 32-hour requirement will be given for only one of the elementary sequences (either Greek 201–202 or Latin 100 or 101–102).

Program of Concentration in Classics
Students complete at least 30 hours in classics, or Greek, Latin, or eligible courses in ancient philosophy or history of art (see above), at least 6 hours of which must be in Greek courses numbered above 204 or in Latin courses numbered above 104. Only one of the elementary language sequences (either
Greek 201–202 or Latin 100 or 101–102) may be applied toward the 30-hour requirement.

Program of Concentration in Ancient Mediterranean Studies

Classical Civilization

Students complete at least 30 hours in classics, Greek, Latin, or eligible courses in ancient philosophy or history of art (see above). or religion such as RLST 208, 209, 213, 215. Relevant courses in religion will be allowed at the discretion of the DUS. No more than 11 hours may be taken at the 100 level, and no more than 12 hours may be taken in the Department of Religious Studies. Students must complete the elementary sequence in one of the ancient languages offered in the department: Greek 201-202; Latin 100; Latin 101-102; or Akkadian (Classics 231-232). By special arrangement, Biblical Hebrew can also satisfy the ancient language requirement.

The following courses may be counted toward concentration in a major or minor in classics or ancient Mediterranean studies classical civilization, or toward a minor in classics: PHIL 210, 218; HART 256, 257, 258, 260, 263, 264, and 268.

Honors Program in Classics and in Classical Languages

Admission requirements are: completion of junior year and completion of at least 6 hours of work in advanced Greek or Latin courses (above Greek 204 or Latin 104), and an overall GPA of 3.4, with 3.5 in courses within the department (including hours earned at the ICCS in Rome). In order to graduate with departmental honors, a student must (in addition to maintaining the stated GPA through the senior year) satisfy the following requirements:

1. Complete 12 hours of work beyond the intermediate level in Latin and/or Greek for honors in classics, and 18 hours for honors in classical languages.
2. Demonstrate competence in Greek or Roman history and archaeology, either by successfully completing the ICCS program in Rome or by completing one of the department’s survey courses in art and archaeology (Classics 204, 205, 206) and one in history (Classics 208, 209, 212, 213).
3. Write a senior thesis, and defend it before the department, for either 3 or 6 hours credit. Candidates choosing the three-hour option for the thesis must complete one of the department’s graduate seminars.

There is no Honors Program in ancient Mediterranean studies the classical civilization concentration.

Minor in Classics

Students who want a minor in classics may tailor their program according to their needs, but they are required to study Greek or Latin through the intermediate level (Latin 104, Greek 204, or a higher-level language course) and to complete an additional 15 hours in courses that count toward the concentration in classics,
of which at least 9 must be at the 200 level.

Minor in Classical Civilization
Students are required to complete 18 hours in courses that count toward the concentration in classical civilization, of which at least 12 must be at the 200 level.
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Three major programs are offered. Students majoring in classical languages approach the ancient world entirely through its literature, and they take all of their course work in Greek and/or Latin. Students majoring in classics integrate the ancient texts with other kinds of evidence (sociology, religion, art, etc.), in order to compare the words of Greeks and Romans to their actions; they may apply any number of courses in Greek and/or Latin toward this major, as long as two language courses are at the advanced level. Students majoring in classical civilization receive the broadest introduction to the ancient world, and they read the primary sources in translation.

Majors in classical languages or classics are encouraged to spend a semester at the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome or Sicily. A summer program at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens is also available. The Classics Society functions as the department’s extracurricular organization. Eta Sigma Phi is the national honorary society for classics.

**Program of Concentration in Classical Languages**
Students complete 32 hours in Greek and Latin. Those who want to concentrate in one language must also complete at least two semesters’ work in the other, although credit toward the 32-hour requirement will be given for only one of the elementary sequences (*either* Greek 201–202 *or* Latin 100 *or* 101–102).

**Program of Concentration in Classics**
Students complete at least 30 hours in classics, *or* Greek, Latin, or eligible courses in ancient philosophy or history of art (see above), at least 6 hours of which must be in Greek courses numbered above 204 or in Latin courses numbered above 104. Only one of the elementary language sequences (*either* Greek 201–202 *or* Latin 100 *or* 101–102) may be applied toward the 30-hour requirement.

**Program of Concentration in Classical Civilization**
Students complete at least 30 hours in classics, Greek, Latin, or eligible courses in ancient philosophy or history of art (see above). Relevant courses in religion
will be allowed at the discretion of the DUS. No more than 11 hours may be taken at the 100 level.

The following courses may be counted toward a major or minor in classics or classical civilization: PHIL 210, 218; HART 256, 257, 258, 260, 263, 264, and 268

Honors Program in Classics and in Classical Languages
Admission requirements are: completion of junior year and completion of at least 6 hours of work in advanced Greek or Latin courses (above Greek 204 or Latin 104), and an overall GPA of 3.4, with 3.5 in courses within the department (including hours earned at the ICCS in Rome). In order to graduate with departmental honors, a student must (in addition to maintaining the stated GPA through the senior year) satisfy the following requirements:
1. Complete 12 hours of work beyond the intermediate level in Latin and/or Greek for honors in classics, and 18 hours for honors in classical languages.
2. Demonstrate competence in Greek or Roman history and archaeology, either by successfully completing the ICCS program in Rome or by completing one of the department’s survey courses in art and archaeology (Classics 204, 205, 206) and one in history (Classics 208, 209, 212, 213).
3. Write a senior thesis, and defend it before the department, for either 3 or 6 hours credit. Candidates choosing the three-hour option for the thesis must complete one of the department’s graduate seminars.
There is no Honors Program in the classical civilization concentration.

Minor in Classics

Students are required to study Greek or Latin through the intermediate level (Latin 104, Greek 204, or a higher-level language course) and to complete an additional 15 hours in courses that count toward the concentration in classics, of which at least 9 must be at the 200 level.

Minor in Classical Civilization

Students are required to complete 18 hours in courses that count toward the concentration in classical civilization, of which at least 12 must be at the 200 level.