

What can I do with a degree in Classics?

Classics.



Career planning: what do I need to know?

Knowledge of yourself is important for career decision making. Start by looking at your personal goals, abilities, values and interests to explore study and career options that are relevant to you. Some of these may change over time, so it is important to self-reflect and evaluate your career on an ongoing basis.

What do employers look for?

Many employers look for generic skills such as communication, customer-focus, bicultural competence, cultural awareness and teamwork.

How can I develop these skills?

- Some skills are developed through your degree
- Extra-curricular activities can help, for example getting involved in clubs, mentoring, cultural groups, part-time work or volunteering

- Be open to professional and personal development opportunities. Whether it is undertaking an internship, overseas exchange, skills seminar, or joining an industry group – these activities will enhance your employability.

What else should I know?

The career options in this brochure are examples only and the list is not exhaustive. Some careers may require further study beyond a first degree or additional work experience. Some pathways and degrees have a recommended school background. Find more subject details at www.canterbury.ac.nz/subjects/classics

If this brochure does not answer your questions, talking to an expert such as a career consultant can help you to identify the next steps in your career decision making journey.

www.canterbury.ac.nz/careers

What is Classics?

Classics is the study of the ancient Mediterranean world with a focus on Greece and Rome from the second millennium BC to around the fifth century AD – over 1500 years of astonishingly rich cultural history.

Study of the ancients involves learning about their languages (ancient Greek and Latin), literature, ideas, art, archaeology, and history. Classics is an international field that offers students a holistic understanding of the ancient world in all its diversity. It also gives students a keen lens through which to view the modern world for example: relations with indigenous cultures; concepts of democracy, theatre, and psychology; influence on architecture, administration, and law-making.

Classics at UC covers broad aspects of life in the ancient world such as athletics, slavery, gender studies, ethnicity, sexuality and more.



AT A GLANCE

1

museum for every 9,500 people in Aotearoa New Zealand, one of the world's highest per capita*

370

ancient Greek and Roman artefacts in the Teece Museum of Classical Antiquities

40+

secondary school Classics teachers based in Waitaha Canterbury

What skills have UC graduates gained?

The successful study of Classics cultivates desirable skills employers want such as:

- Advanced communication skills, both written and oral
- Critical and rigorous thinking
- Interpretation, analysis and evaluation of evidence
- Constructing arguments
- Reasoning and problem solving
- Interpretation and analysis
- Research and computing skills
- Understanding of factors that shape societies
- A well-formed awareness of others' viewpoints and cultural identity.

Internships

Classics students can apply their learning outside the classroom through an internship, for example interning at the James Logie Memorial Collection of Greek and Roman artworks in the Arts Centre. Work on the material here can enhance research and practical skills of relevance to employment in museums, or as a curator, conservator, heritage or arts manager.

Where have UC graduates been employed?

Classics graduates enjoy a wide variety of career destinations for example in media, policy and research, culture and heritage, teaching, community development and business.

UC graduates have been employed in:

- Media and publishing groups
- Secondary schools
- Recruitment agencies
- Membership organisations
- New Zealand government ministries
- Museums and galleries
- New Zealand Police
- New Zealand Defence Force
- Tertiary institutions
- Churches and religious groups
- Charities
- Advertising and creative agencies
- Telecommunications
- Operations and construction sectors.

* www.teara.govt.nz/en/museums

What jobs and activities do graduates do?

Graduates with this degree are employed in a range of jobs — see some examples below.

Note: Some of the jobs listed may require postgraduate study. See the 'Further study' section.

Policy analyst / advisor

- Identifies and investigates issues and opportunities eg, in society, law or governance
- Interprets existing policies and briefs leaders
- Prepares reports and recommends changes

Librarian

- Categorises and catalogues library materials
- Selects materials for library use
- Helps customers find and use materials

Secondary school teacher

- Plans and delivers instructional lessons
- Evaluates performance and provides feedback
- Sets and marks assignments and tests

Curator

- Chooses display items at museums or galleries
- Manages collections and exhibitions
- Conducts research and communicates details

Historian

- Analyses sources to uncover the history of a period, place, person, group or aspect
- Publishes findings and shares knowledge
- Maintains historical records

Conservator

- Examines artefacts and their storage conditions
- Keeps records and identifies restoration work
- Cleans and repairs sensitive objects and recreates historically accurate finishes

Editorial assistant

- Proofreads material and coordinates changes
- Adds elements in production eg, graphics
- Answers publication queries

Intelligence officer

- Investigates whether people, places and events pose a threat to security
- Advises how to manage threats
- Cooperates with other agencies

Communications / media advisor, journalist

- Develops information, media and communication strategies
- Researches, writes, edits and produces content

Entrepreneur & self-employment

Entrepreneurship and innovation are an increasing part of the working landscape. Through generating a business idea, or getting involved in a start-up/business venture, you have the potential to create a work opportunity that aligns with your knowledge, skills, values and risk profile. To get started on how to establish, run and grow a new business, go to Te Pokapū Rakahinonga, Centre for Entrepreneurship at the University of Canterbury www.canterbury.ac.nz/uce

What professional organisations can I engage with?

Connecting with professional bodies and organisations can help you to establish professional networks and learn more about different career options in your area of interest. Gaining valuable insight into a profession can assist in making informed career decisions.

- The Australasian Society for Classical Studies www.ascs.org.au

- New Zealand Association of Classical Teachers www.nzact.org.nz
- New Zealand Archaeological Association www.nzarchaeology.org

Having a professional presence on social media networks such as www.linkedin.com and Facebook can help you to keep up to date with important industry developments and trends, networking opportunities, events and job vacancies. Following relevant professional bodies, organisations, companies and thought leaders is a great way to gain a deeper awareness of the industries that interest you. Social media presents an opportunity to build and enhance networks as well as to display your involvement in projects and any academic successes.

Why do further study and what are my options?

Postgraduate study can facilitate career benefits such as specialist skills, entry into a specific occupation, higher starting salary, faster progression rate, and advanced research capability. It is important to determine which, if any, further study will help you in your future career.

Classics graduates can progress their studies from honours through to PhD level. Postgraduate study can also lead to an academic career pathway in teaching and research.

Many Arts graduates do additional training in teaching, journalism, policy, international relations, librarianship or management.

For UC qualification listings visit www.canterbury.ac.nz/courses



Useful links

Te Rōpū Rapuara UC Careers www.canterbury.ac.nz/careers

Careers New Zealand www.careers.govt.nz

Teece Museum of Classical Antiquities www.arts.canterbury.ac.nz/logie

UCSA Classoc Club www.ucsa.org.nz/clubs

Lauren



Bachelor of Arts in Classics with a minor in Art History and Theory
Bachelor of Arts with Honours in Classics
Sales and Subscriptions Executive at BusinessDesk NZ

Do you have any advice for prospective students?

Study what you love! Even though I wasn't sure where it could take me, my time wasn't wasted as I was excited to get to university every day and surround myself with my passion.

By developing my knowledge and enthusiasm, my strengths became apparent too. The more I studied Classics, the more I enjoyed it and saw great results — that snowball effect was a great motivator.

What was the highlight of your internship experience?

The Arts Internship was a great addition to my honours year studies, as it allowed me to be hands-on with material in the James Logie Memorial Collection. I saw the theoretical parts of my studies from a new and tangible perspective, which was incredibly valuable. Also, it was great to put the abilities and unique skills that I learnt during my internship onto my CV.

What do you like about your job?

Each day varies greatly from the next, and in the fast-paced environment of current affairs, I'm always busy. I love this aspect of my job, as I'm constantly learning. I've met some fantastic people and since I'm the main point of contact for the *Listener* I've heard some incredible stories too.

What are your career goals?

I'd like to stay in my role for a while, and see in what directions I could go. I really enjoy the media industry, so finding a position that combines my current industry with my passion for heritage and ancient art and architecture would be the ultimate goal.

I would like to take my postgraduate studies further, but I plan on travelling first to see the magnificent architecture I studied during my degree.

Read more online

Read more stories about our students' university experiences online. UC alumni make a difference in varied ways around the globe. To find out where graduates are now visit www.canterbury.ac.nz/getstarted/whyuc/student-profiles

The information in this brochure was correct at the time of print but is subject to change.

More information

UC students seeking study advice.

Te Kura Kete Aronui | School of Humanities and Creative Arts

The Department hosts one of the finest collections of antiquities in the Southern Hemisphere and Classics students have the chance to work with many artefacts up close.

Christchurch's rich Classical-oriented community includes the Department's base at the Arts Centre in town, a faculty of international experts, and the student-run club Classoc.

T: + 64 3 369 3377

E: artsdegreeadvice@canterbury.ac.nz

www.canterbury.ac.nz/arts/classics

Anyone seeking careers advice.

Te Rōpū Rapuara | UC Careers

UC offers intending and current students and recent graduates a wide range of services, including individual career guidance, seminars, career resources and student and graduate employment opportunities.

T: +64 3 369 0303

E: careers@canterbury.ac.nz

www.canterbury.ac.nz/careers

Prospective students seeking study advice.

Te Rōpū Takawaenga | Student Liaison

The liaison team provide advice to future students who are starting their degree for the first time. They can assist with information on degrees, scholarships, accommodation, and other aspects of university life. We have offices in Christchurch, Auckland and Wellington.

Ōtautahi | Christchurch

T: 0800 VARSITY (0800 827 748)

E: liaison@canterbury.ac.nz

Tāmaki Makaurau | Auckland

T: 0800 UCAUCK

E: auckland@canterbury.ac.nz

Te Whanganui-a-Tara | Wellington

T: 0800 VARSITY (0800 827 748)

E: wellington@canterbury.ac.nz

www.canterbury.ac.nz/liaison

