Greek Studies

Degree conferred

Options
For information on the optional award of the distinction «Bilingual curriculum, French/German», please contact the relevant Department (see Contact).

Languages of study
Possibility to study in French, in German or in French and German. Some courses are offered in English.

Commencement of studies
Commencement of studies in the Autumn Semester (September) or in the Spring Semester (February)

Access to further studies
Ph.D.

This master programme broadens students’ Greek language skills and enhances their knowledge of the culture and literature of Greek antiquity. It further encompasses the lasting influence of this heritage through the centuries of Late Antiquity and the Byzantine period.

The study programme consists of a common core made up of a literature course, a reading course and two seminars on Greek language and culture. A practical workshop gives students the opportunity to learn the basics of scientific research and do hands-on training in areas such as papyrology, palaeography, codicology and text edition.

Profile of the study programme

The master programme in Greek studies offers both general training and specialisation. Building on the bachelor’s degree, it broadens students’ Greek language skills, also enhancing their knowledge of the culture and literature of classical antiquity and giving them additional insights into the continuity of classical antiquity through the centuries of Late Antiquity and the Byzantine period. Pride of place is given to the reading and interpretation of texts in their original language and their reception in European intellectual life.

Fribourg profile

According to the special focus of the University of Fribourg in the field of classical studies, particular emphasis is placed on the reception of Greek classical antiquity during the imperial period, Greek culture and literature in Late Antiquity, and, in collaboration with the Institute of Mediaeval Studies (Institut d'études médiévales/Mediävistisches Institut), the Byzantine Renaissance. Students also study the influence of literary forms and ancient mythology on modern literature in partnership with the Institute of General and Comparative Literature (Institut de littérature générale et comparée/Institut für Allgemeine und Vergleichende Literaturwissenschaft). The practical workshop gives students the opportunity to learn the basics of scientific research and do hands-on training in areas such as papyrology, palaeography, codicology and text edition. In line with University of Fribourg's language policy, students of Greek studies have the possibility of taking their course in two languages (French and German).

Learning outcomes and career openings

On completing their course, students will have acquired a command of the Greek language and in-depth knowledge of Greek literature and culture. They will be capable of translating a Greek text, analysing it grammatically and stylistically, placing it in its literary, historical and cultural context and establishing links with modern literature. For a given problem, they will have acquired the methodological skills allowing them to draw up a pertinent bibliography, search for sources, analyse them critically and in detail, put forward a summary of the issues and give an oral and/or written presentation of the results of their research. Thanks to their practical training, they will be capable of working on original documents (papyri, manuscripts, etc.) and producing a text edition.

The principal career openings for students of Greek studies are:

- Teaching Greek at secondary school level I and II;
- An academic or scientific career in classical studies;
- Public administration and cultural policy;
- Administrative posts in scientific bodies;
- Private sector (human resources).

Studies organisation

Structure of studies

30 ECTS credits as a minor study programme, 2-4 semesters

Curriculum

http://studies.unifr.ch/go/9E-Pg (French)
http://studies.unifr.ch/go/jXVrf (German)

Comments

The master programme Latin Studies is also offered as a minor study programme (30 ECTS credits). The master programme Classics is offered as a major study programme (90 ECTS credits).

Admission

Master’s degree programmes are built on the knowledge and abilities that were acquired when obtaining a bachelor’s degree.

Holders of a bachelor’s degree awarded by a Swiss university are admitted to a master’s degree programme without any preconditions if they have earned 80 or 90 ECTS credits –
depending on the chosen master’s degree programme – within the corresponding discipline. However, additional requirements can be required. The same applies to holders of a bachelor's degree awarded by a foreign university, provided that the bachelor's degree is recognised and considered equivalent by the University of Fribourg.

Holders of a bachelor's degree awarded by a Swiss or a foreign university, provided that the bachelor's degree is recognised and considered equivalent by the University of Fribourg, who do not fulfill this condition can be admitted to a master's degree programme with preconditions (which must be successfully completed before starting the master's degree programme) and/or additional requirements (which can be completed during the master's degree programme). The preconditions and/or additional requirements may not exceed 60 ECTS credits in total. The same applies to holders of a bachelor's degree awarded by a Swiss university of applied sciences, according to existing agreements.

*The respective conditions of admission for each master's degree programme are reserved.*

**Contact**

Faculty of Humanities  
Department of Classics  
Prof. Thomas Schmidt  
thomas.schmidt@unifr.ch  
[http://studies.unifr.ch/go/fr-classics](http://studies.unifr.ch/go/fr-classics) *(French)*  
[http://studies.unifr.ch/go/de-classics](http://studies.unifr.ch/go/de-classics) *(German)*