Greek Studies

Degree conferred

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
Master

This bachelor programme covers the study of Greek antiquity from Homer to the Byzantine period. It focuses on the acquisition and consolidation of Greek language skills, as well as the interpretation of literary texts in the broader context of Greek culture. Special emphasis is placed on the reception of Greek classical antiquity during the imperial period, and on Greek culture and literature of Late Antiquity. In partnership with the Institute of General and Comparative Literature (Institut de littérature générale et comparée/Institut für Allgemeine und Vergleichende Literaturwissenschaft), students also study the influence of literary forms and classical mythology on modern literature. This field of study enables students to acquire a command of the Greek language, as well as in-depth knowledge of Greek literature and culture. The programme concentrates essentially on the teaching of the Greek language and literature, with lectures, exercises and proseminars aimed at enabling students to hone their language skills, their knowledge of philological techniques and literary analysis skills.

Profile of the study programme

The programme covers the study of Greek antiquity from Homer to the Byzantine period. The emphasis is on the acquisition and consolidation of Greek language skills, as well as on the interpretation of literary texts. As the title of the programme indicates, work on literary texts is set in the broader context of Greek culture, while the study of language and culture proper goes hand in hand with that of the history of classical antiquity, archaeology, ancient philosophy and patristics. The programme concentrates essentially on teaching Greek language and culture, reading texts in the original Greek, and exercises and proseminars aimed at deepening students’ knowledge of the Greek language and of philological techniques.

Fribourg profile
The University of Fribourg specialises in classical studies and as a result we place special emphasis on the reception of Greek classical antiquity during the imperial period, Greek culture and literature in Late Antiquity and, through close collaboration with the Institute of Mediaeval Studies (Institut d’études médievales/Mediävistisches Institut), the Byzantine culture. In partnership with the Institute of General and Comparative Literature (Institut de littérature générale et comparée/Institut für Allgemeine und Vergleichende Literaturwissenschaft), students also study the influence of literary forms and classical mythology on modern literature. In line with University of Fribourg’s language policy, Greek Studies students 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 Greek 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 issue and give an oral or written presentation of the results of their research.

The principal career openings for Greek Studies students are:

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

Studies organisation

Structure of studies
60 ECTS credits as a minor study programme

Curriculum
http://studies.unifr.ch/go/KRNiq (French)
http://studies.unifr.ch/go/gpUA1 (German)

Comments
Knowledge of Greek is required. Students who did not take this language at an academic upper secondary school can attend the special lessons that are built into the curriculum.

Furthermore, a study programme worth 120 ECTS credits is also offered as a major: Classics.

Alternatives
Also offered as a minor study programme for 30 ECTS credits.

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