

LATIN AND GREEK

LATN 101

LATN 102

LATN 203

LATN 204/205

Latin gives you a better understanding of English grammar and other European languages, especially the Romance languages that come from Latin.



GREK 101

GREK 102

GREK 203

GREK 204/205

Knowledge of Greek allows you to read an immense range of literary, historical, philosophical, and religious works in their original form such as the New Testament.

Department of **CLASSICS**

Interested? Check out our website at classics.unc.edu
Weekly reading groups available during academic year.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Latin is a dead language. What's the point of studying it?

Studying Latin will significantly improve skills in reading, analysis, and writing. Latin gives you a better understanding of the grammar that underlies English and other European languages, especially the Romance languages that come from Latin (Spanish, French, Italian); it will also enhance your understanding of English vocabulary, since so many of our words derive from Latin.

Weekly reading groups are available during the academic year.

What kinds of things can I read and study if I take Latin?

Because Latin was a living language for some 2,000 years, knowledge of Latin allows you to read an amazing range of literary, historical, philosophical, and scientific works in their original form, from Vergil's Aeneid to Isaac Newton's Mathematical Principles of Natural Philosophy. Even today, Latin continues to be all around us: E Pluribus Unum, Esse Quam Videri, Lux Libertas.

I took the online Latin placement test. Am I stuck with my placement?

No! The result of the online placement test is a recommendation. If you have questions, contact our Director of Undergraduate Studies or the Directors of Elementary and Intermediate Latin Program (contact information on our website: [Home](#) -> [About Us](#) -> [Administration & Contacts](#)).

Can I use Latin or Greek to satisfy the general education language requirement?

Yes! Receiving credit for LATN 203 or GREK 203 fulfills the Gen Ed Language Requirement. We offer at least one section of LATN 101, 102, and 203 every semester; GREK 101 and 203 in fall and 102 in spring. Find further information on our website ([Home](#) -> [Undergraduate](#) -> [Placement in Latin and Greek Courses](#)).

Why study Ancient Greek?

Anyone interested in the cultures, history, religion, and literature of the Ancient Mediterranean will want to study Ancient Greek. Many students interested in philosophy, linguistics, archaeology, art history, and the literary humanities will also find Greek relevant.

What happens in Ancient Greek courses?

A primary goal in learning Ancient Greek is to read ancient literature and textual artifacts. So while oral work may be a part of the learning process at various stages, the main emphasis is on reading, not speaking. Weekly read-aloud sessions are available during the academic year.

Is Ancient Greek the same as modern Greek? Can I study modern Greek?

Modern Greek is the direct descendant of Ancient Greek, and very closely related. We do not teach modern Greek at UNC, but Ancient Greek can be a good way to develop understanding of the language in its historical context.