What Can I Do With A Major In Classical Languages?

Education Areas
- Teaching
- Research
- Administration
- Student Affairs Including:
  - International Education/Study Abroad
  - Academic Advising
  - Admissions
  - Student Support Services
  - Library and Information Services

Employers
- Universities and colleges
- Elementary and secondary schools, public and private
- Professional language schools

Strategies
- Earn a Ph.D. for college/university teaching or a graduate degree in college student affairs or library/information science for other university positions.
- Learn the certification process for teaching K-12. Acquire certification in additional subject areas for increased job possibilities.
- Maintain a high grade point average and develop strong recommendations from faculty.
- Get involved on campus as a resident assistant, orientation leader, admissions guide, etc.

The Arts Areas
- Administration/Management
- Archival Work
- Education
Research
Translation
Museum Work: Curatorship, Conservation, Restoration
Design: Period, Exhibit, Costume, Set
Development/Fundraising
Appraisal

Employers
- Museums including: Public, private, university
- Art galleries
- Antique dealerships
- Art councils
- Historical societies and sites
- Archives
- Libraries
- Public research agencies
- Private foundations
- Theatrical companies

Strategies
- Minor in art history or take other relevant courses.
- Develop excellent writing and communication skills.
- Volunteer or intern in an art or historical museum.
- Earn a graduate degree in museum studies, art history, library/information science, or other related field.
- Be prepared to relocate to areas with higher concentrations of art-related employers.

Foreign Language Teaching
Library/Information Services

Employers
- Local, state, and federal government

Strategies
- Learn federal, state, and local job application process.
- Take additional courses or earn a minor in area of interest.
- Gain relevant work experience through government internship programs.
- Earn a master's or professional degree in a related field to qualify for the most job opportunities.
- Get involved in campus leadership roles.
- Develop excellent written and oral communication skills.

Government Areas
- Administration
- Research
- Grant Writing
- Development
- Programming

Employers
- Nonprofit organizations
- Social service organizations
- Churches and religiously affiliated groups

Strategies
- Volunteer or intern with social service organizations.
- Learn to work well with people of diverse backgrounds.
- Develop excellent communication skills.
- Take a course in grant writing.
• Join a service fraternity or get involved in community service projects.

Communications
Areas
- Technical Writing
- Editing
- Copywriting
- Journalism
- Research
- Translation

Employers
- Publishers
- Magazines
- Newspapers
- TV stations
- Film companies
- Internet sites
- Advertising agencies

Strategies
• Develop excellent writing and research skills.
• Take courses in applicable areas such as English, technical writing, or journalism.
• Gain related work experience by completing an internship.
• Develop a portfolio of writing samples.
• Write for campus or community newspapers.
• Learn appropriate computer software packages.

Business / Industry
Areas
- Customer Service
- Management
- Sales

Human Resources
- Public Relations
- Importing and Exporting

Employers
- Businesses in various industries

Strategies
• Many businesses hire students of "any major" if they have relevant experience and have developed the skills employers seek.
• Minor in business or another relevant field.
• Obtain related experience through internships, summer, and part-time jobs.
• Develop strong technical and analytical skills.
• Learn to work well on a team.
• Get involved in campus organizations and seek leadership roles.

Law
Areas
- Law Assistance
- Prosecution
- Defense
- Contractual
- Corporate
- Nonprofit or Public Interest
- Government
- Mediation
- Lobbying

Employers
- Law firms
- Government agencies
- State and local government
- Corporations
Public interest organizations
Private practice
Colleges and universities

**Strategies**
- Develop strong research skills and attention to detail.
- Participate in a debate or forensic team to hone communication skills.
- Take courses in and gain experience with mediation and conflict resolution.
- Get involved with pre-law organizations.
- Obtain a summer or part-time job in a law firm.
- Plan to shadow an attorney to learn more about the field and various specialties.
- Complete special training requirements for paralegal positions.
- Attend law school and earn a J.D. to become an attorney. Maintain an excellent grade point average and secure strong faculty recommendations to gain law school admittance. Plan to take the LSAT.

**Armed services**
Government agencies

**Strategies**
- Plan on attending medical school or other related graduate program. Alternative undergraduate degrees may be preferred by some medical schools.
- Take applicable prerequisites for medical/professional school and maintain an excellent grade point average, particularly in the sciences.
- Meet with a pre-health advisor periodically.
- Seek experiences in hospital or healthcare settings through volunteering, shadowing, part-time positions, or internships.
- Get involved in campus organizations and take leadership roles.
- Secure strong faculty recommendations.
- Join related student organizations, and demonstrate leadership abilities.
- Prepare for applicable graduate admission exams, e.g. the MCAT or GRE.

**Medicine**

**Areas**
- Medicine
- Dentistry
- Optometry
- Podiatry
- Pharmacy
- Allied Health Including: Occupational and physical therapy

**Employers**
- Hospitals
- Medical centers and clinics
- Nursing homes
- Private practice

**General Information**
- Classics is an interdisciplinary major useful for cultivating verbal, written, and logical reasoning skills and for broadening one's world view.
- An undergraduate major is adequate for entry-level positions in fields such as communications, business, and government or community organizations.
- Develop a career goal and then gain the appropriate experiences, skills, and credentials to qualify for those types of positions.
- Seek experience in your interest area through internships, summer or part-time work, or volunteer positions.
- Develop excellent writing and research skills.
Join organizations such as The American Classical League or The American Philological Association to establish a professional network.

Study and/or travel abroad to contribute to your understanding of the field.

Pursue graduate education in classics for increased opportunities. Plan to specialize in one area such as Latin and Greek, classical literature, classical archaeology or classical civilization.

A classics major serves as good preparation for graduate study in other analytical subjects such as law, anthropology, history, or English and for research or practice in religion. Consider combining study in the classics with a major or minor in another discipline to maximize opportunities.

Latin and Greek language training is particularly helpful for learning legal and medical terminology.

Secure strong relationships and personal recommendations from professors, and become familiar with the specific entrance exam for graduate or professional schools.

**Major Exploration**

University of Minnesota - Latin & Greek
http://www.clacareer.umn.edu/wcidwami/latin.html
http://www.clacareer.umn.edu/wcidwami/greek.html

University of St. Thomas
http://www.stthomas.edu/academics/majors/ClassicalLanguages.html

Some common career titles for this major

- Computer Instructional Designer
- Editorial Assistant
- Film Researcher/Copywriter
- Foreign Language Teacher
- Historian
- Teach English as a Foreign Language
- Teacher
- Technical Writer
- Translator

**Job Postings**

SMC Student Job Search - www.stmarys-ca.edu/studentjobs

www.overseasjobs.com/

Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) www.tesol.org/

Department of State
www.state.gov/www/careers/index.html

United Nations

Federal Government Employment
www.usajobs.opm.gov/

**Associations and Societies**

American Philological Association
www.apaclassics.org/

AAH Association of Ancient Historians
www.associationofancienthistorians.org

AIA Archaeological Institute of America
www.archaeological.org/

American Society of Papyrologists
www.papyrology.org/
The Center for Hellenic Studies  
www.chs.harvard.edu/

California Classical Association - Northern Section  
www.ccanorth.org/

American Translators Association  
www.atanet.org/

National Association for Bilingual Education  
www.nabe.org/

Books & Other Resources

Careers for Foreign Language Aficionados & Other Multilingual Types by Seelye & Day
Careers in International Affairs edited by Carland and Trucano
Great Jobs for Foreign Language Majors by DeGalan and Lambert
International Employment Gazette (Binder)
Jobs for People Who Love to Travel by Ron and Caryl Krannich, Ph.D.s
Opportunities in Foreign Language Careers by Wilga M. Rivers

Web Sites of Interest

Latin Links  
www.uky.edu/ArtsSciences/Classics/teaching.html