

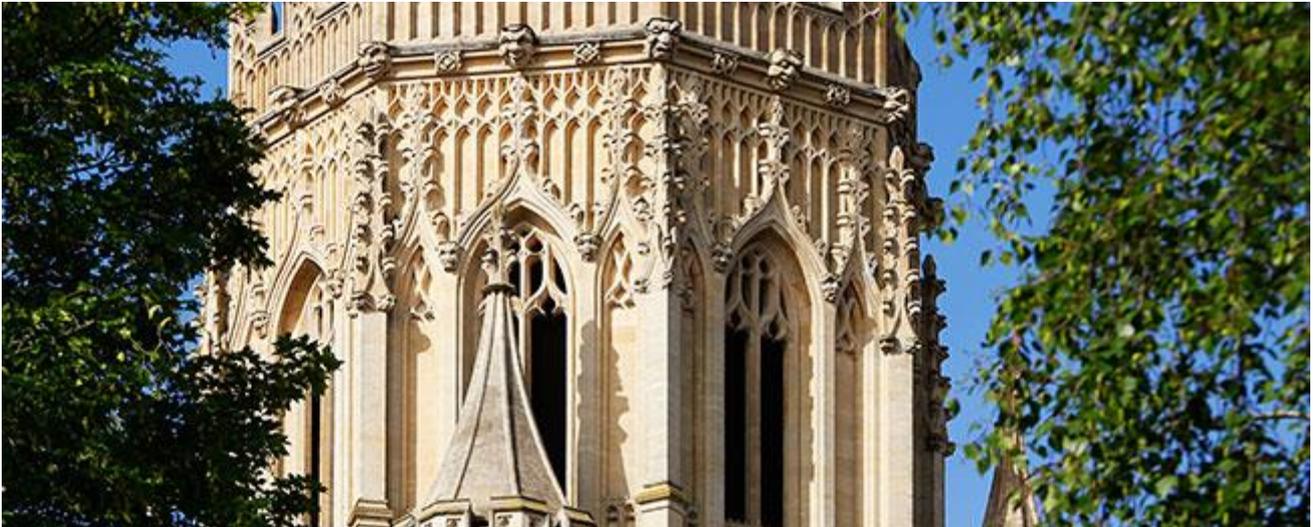


University of
BRISTOL

Erasmus+ Study Guide
2019/20
Department of Classics
and Ancient History

Department of Classics and Ancient History, The School of Humanities

GUIDE FOR CLASSICS ERASMUS STUDENTS (2019-20)



Welcome to the Department of Classics and Ancient History in the School of Humanities.

Classics has been at the heart of the University of Bristol since its foundation in 1909; the Wills Chair of Greek was one of the three original chairs, along with Mathematics and Physics, endowed by H.O. Wills, whose gift of £100,000 in 1908 was the crucial step in University College obtaining its royal charter. Distinguished holders of the Greek chair have included H.D.F. Kitto, N.G.L. Hammond and John Gould. The Latin chair has been held by scholars including William Beare, Niall Rudd and Charles Martindale. Gillian Clark FBA was the first Professor of Ancient History, and Bristol has also been served by notable classical archaeologists like Peter Warren; both these distinguished scholars are still active in the research life of the university since their retirements.

Today the Department of Classics & Ancient History is part of the School of Humanities, the largest and most successful School in the Faculty of Arts, together with English, Historical Studies, History of Art and Religion & Theology. It currently comprises fourteen permanent members of staff, a postgraduate community of over 30 students, and roughly 250 undergraduates, more or less equally divided between the Classics, Classical Studies and Ancient History programmes.

Bristol has been the site of world-leading, innovative research that has helped to transform the discipline. It has a high international profile in several sub-disciplines: mythology; historiography; religion; late antiquity; literary theory; and reception. It is a pluralist department, hospitable both to innovative theoretical perspectives and to engaged work on essential disciplinary skills, particularly those related to language and material culture. It values collaboration and intellectual cross-fertilization in teaching and research; cross-disciplinarity is the norm rather than the exception. It aims not only to identify but to define new trends. Our diverse research activities are unified by three broad underlying themes:

interdisciplinarity and multidisciplinary, the exploration of new theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of antiquity, and a concern with the continuing impact and influence of the classical world and its culture.

The Bristol Institute of Greece, Rome and the Classical Tradition plays a particularly important role in promoting classical research. Funded wholly by donations and research grants, over the last decade it has supported a series of post-doctoral fellows (many of whom have gone on to permanent academic position), organised workshops and conferences, and put on events to engage with the wider public and promote the study of the ancient world in local schools.

Your point of contact is the School of Humanities Support Office, located in G.44A, 11 Woodland Road.

Academic Calendar for 2019-20

	Start Date	End Date
Welcome Week	23 September 2019	27 September 2019
Teaching Block 1	30 September 2019	20 December 2019
January Assessment Period	13 January 2020	24 January 2020

Teaching Block 2	27 January 2020	8 May 2020
Summer Assessment Period	18 May 2020	5 June 2020

Vacations	Start Date	End Date
Christmas	23 December 2019	10 January 2020
Easter	30 March 2020	17 April 2020
Summer	15 June 2020	TBC



Units and Credits

As a Classics Erasmus student, you will be expected to take the majority of your units within the Department of Classics and Ancient History in the School of Humanities.

You are required to take units amounting to 60 credits in each Teaching Block (i.e. Semester), which is equivalent to 30 ECTS credits.

The University of Bristol's Unit and Programme Catalogue 2019-20 provides full information on the units available in the Department of Classics and Ancient History: [Programme Catalogue](#).

When reviewing unit choices, please consider:

- The amount of credits for the unit (all Classics units available to you are 20 credits)
- The Teaching Block it is running in – please make sure you select a unit which runs in the semester you are here
- Are there are pre-requisites?
- Are there are any co-requisites? (are you expected to take the class alongside another class?)
- The form of assessments you will be required to complete (this could include coursework, examinations, language class tests, and/or class presentations)

All this information can be found on the unit's description entry in the Unit and Programme Catalogue.

You are responsible for selecting units appropriate for your level of study, and for informing your University of your choices. Our Office is happy to answer any questions you may have about units within the Department of Classics and Ancient History but cannot confirm what your University requires you to take.

English Language Skills

If you need to develop your academic English language skills, you can take optional units at CELFS (the Centre for English Language and Foundation Studies). These units focus on listening and speaking, reading and writing, and advanced grammar. Visit the CELFS website to register for these units: www.bristol.ac.uk/english-language/study/current-students/for-undergraduate/open-units/

Commonly asked questions

- Can I take a unit outside the Department of Classics and Ancient History?

Yes – the majority of your units should be within the Department to reflect your registration as a Classics Erasmus student. However, please discuss with your University how many units they will permit you to take outside Classics. Your University may have specific requirements about what you can and cannot take, or they may allow you the freedom to choose units from across the University of Bristol.

- I have looked at the unit catalogue and it says that a unit is 'not open'. What does that mean?

The majority of units within the Department of Classics and Ancient History are not open to University of Bristol students on programmes outside the department. A few are, and these are called 'open units'.

As a Classics Erasmus student, you will not be affected by the open unit constraints. You can register interest in units across the department, as we recognise you are taking a Classics pathway.

- Can I change my unit options at a later date?

This is possible, but not guaranteed. The School of Humanities will register you on the units you include in your Learning Agreement before you arrive at Bristol. During your first week here, our School runs a unit registration session where you can request to drop or take a class. Our Office cannot guarantee unit availability, so it is not always possible to grant a unit change request. We also grant these changes early on and cannot amend unit registrations throughout the semester, as this can have a detrimental impact on your academic progress.

- I am studying here for one term and will return to my home University in January. I want to take a unit that has an exam in January, but I will not be able to attend. Can I still take the class?

Yes – you can choose to take a unit which has an exam in January even if you intend to return home by that date. The exam will be replaced with an alternative form of assessment, which is normally an essay of 2,500 words. Our Office contacts students a few weeks into term to ask if you intend to sit the exam in January or will require an alternative form of assessment. These assignments are submitted online, so you can return home and continue to complete work.



Contacts

To contact the Study Abroad coordinators for the School of Humanities please email them at hums-schooloffice@bristol.ac.uk. Alternatively, please visit the School of Humanities Student Support Office in 11 Woodland Rd.

The Department of Classics and Ancient History's Study Abroad Academic Director is Dr Silke Knippschild (clzsk@bristol.ac.uk)