Classics

Degree conferred
Bachelor of Arts

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
Master

This bachelor programme covers both the ancient Greek and Roman world. Its main focus is the acquisition and consolidation of Greek and Latin language skills, as well as the interpretation of literary documents in the broader context of Greek and Roman culture.
At the University of Fribourg, we place special emphasis on the reception of Greek classical antiquity during the imperial period, and the culture and literature of Late Antiquity, the Latin Middle Ages and the Latin literature of the Renaissance. 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.
The programme in Classics concentrates essentially on the teaching of Greek and Latin languages and literature, with lecture courses, exercises and proseminars aimed at enabling students to hone their language skills, their knowledge of philological techniques and their skills in literary analysis.

Profile of the study programme

Classics studies cover both Greek antiquity from Homer to the Byzantine period, and Roman antiquity from the beginnings of the Republic to the humanist period. The emphasis is on the acquisition and consolidation of Greek and Latin language skills, as well as the interpretation of literary documents. As the title of the Department indicates, work on literary texts is set in the broader context of Graeco-Roman culture, while the study of language and literature proper goes hand in hand with that of the history of classical antiquity, archaeology, ancient philosophy and patristics. The Classics course concentrates essentially on the teaching of language and literature, reading texts in the original language, and exercises and proseminars aimed at deepening students' knowledge of the language and of philological techniques.

Fribourg profile
The University of Fribourg specialises in classical studies and special attention is paid to the reception of Greek classical antiquity during the imperial period, the culture and literature of Late Antiquity and, through close collaboration with the Institute of Mediaeval Studies (*Institut d'études médiévales/Mediävistisches Institut*), the Latin Middle Ages and the Byzantine Renaissance. 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 the University of Fribourg's language policy, Classics students have the possibility of taking their courses in two languages (French and German).

Learning outcomes and career openings
On completing their course, students will have acquired a command of Greek and Latin and in-depth knowledge of Graeco-Roman literature and culture. They will be capable of translating a Greek or Latin 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 the requisite methodological skills to draw up a pertinent bibliography, search for sources, analyse them critically and in detail, present a summary of the issue and provide an oral or written presentation of the results of their research.

The principal career openings for Classics students are:

- Teaching Latin and 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

120 ECTS credits + 60 ECTS credits in a minor study programme freely chosen, 6 semesters

Curriculum

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

Comments

Knowledge of Latin or Greek is required. Students who did not take these languages at an academic upper secondary school can attend the special lessons that are built into the curriculum.

The bachelor programmes *Latin Studies* and *Greek Studies* are offered as minor study programmes (60 ECTS credits).

Admission

The following **Swiss school-leaving certificates** grant **admission to bachelor programmes** at the University of Fribourg:

- Swiss academic Maturity Certificate
- Federal vocational or specialised Baccalaureate + supplementary examination of the Swiss Maturity Commission (passerelle)
- Bachelor Degree from a Swiss university, from an accredited Swiss university of applied sciences (HES/FH) or from a Swiss university of teacher education (HEP/PH)

A **complete list of all further recognised Swiss school-leaving certificates** is to be found on the webpages of swissuniversities (*in French and German only*): https://studies.unifr.ch/go/fr-admission-swisscertificates; https://studies.unifr.ch/go/de-admission-swisscertificates
Foreign upper secondary school-leaving certificates are recognised only if they correspond substantially to the Swiss Maturity Certificate. They must qualify as general education. Foreign school-leaving certificates are considered to be general education if, among other things, the last three years of schooling include at least six general education subjects, independent from each other, in accordance with the following list:

1. Language of instruction (at the school)
2. Second language (a foreign language)
3. Mathematics
4. Natural sciences (biology or chemistry or physics)
5. Humanities and social sciences (geography or history or economics/law)
6. Elective (computer sciences or philosophy or an additional language or an additional subject from category 4 or 5)

The general **admission** requirements to the **bachelor programmes** at the University of Fribourg for holders of foreign school-leaving certificates as well as the **admission requirements for individual countries** are to be found on the webpages of swissuniversities: https://studies.unifr.ch/go/en-admission-countries
In addition, applicants with foreign school-leaving certificates must present **proof of sufficient language skills in French or German**.
All guidelines are available at *(only in French and German)*: https://studies.unifr.ch/go/adm-guidelines

The assessment of foreign school-leaving certificates is based on the «Recommendations for the Assessment of Foreign Upper Secondary School-Leaving Certificates» adopted by the Chamber of universities of swissuniversities on 21.11.2024 (https://studies.unifr.ch/go/swissuniversities24fr; https://studies.unifr.ch/go/swissuniversities24de). The admission requirements are valid for the respective academic year. The Rectorat of the University of Fribourg reserves the right to change these requirements at any time.

Contact

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http://studies.unifr.ch/go/fr-classics *(French)*
http://studies.unifr.ch/go/de-classics *(German)*