

**San Francisco State University**  
**Department of Classics**

**THE UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM IN CLASSICS**  
**A STATEMENT OF GOALS**

The Department of Classics endorses the national *Standards for Classical Language Learning* (1997), which is aligned with and is a companion document for *Standards for Foreign Language Learning: Preparing for the 21st Century* (National Standards in Foreign Language Education Project, 1996). Working within that framework, the Department has adopted the following goals for all undergraduate majors (effective Fall 1998):

1.     **Communication** in Classical Languages
  - 1.1     Students will read, understand and interpret Latin and/or ancient Greek.
  - 1.2     Students will use orally, listen to, and write Latin and/or ancient Greek.
  
2.     **Culture.** Gain knowledge and understanding of ancient Mediterranean and Near Eastern society and material culture, and communicate this knowledge in written and oral form.
  - 2.1     Students will demonstrate an understanding of the perspectives of ancient Mediterranean and Near Eastern cultures as revealed in the practices (e.g., philosophy, religion, arts) of the ancient Mediterranean world.
  - 2.2     Students will demonstrate an understanding of the perspectives of ancient Mediterranean and Near Eastern cultures as revealed in the products (e.g., archaeological evidence, artifacts, art forms) of the ancient Mediterranean world.
  
3.     **Connections.** Gain knowledge of the interdependence of literary and material culture, and communicate this knowledge in written and oral form.
  - 3.1     Students will demonstrate their awareness of the interdependence of classical languages and literature and the material culture of the ancient Mediterranean world.
  - 3.2     Students will demonstrate an understanding of the varied disciplines within and related to classics -- philology, linguistics, literary theory and criticism, archaeology, history, art and architectural history, philosophy, religion, etc. -- and will be able to understand how each relates to the other and provides information valuable to our understanding of ancient societies.
  
4.     **Comparisons.** Develop insights into one's own and other languages and cultures, and communicate these insights in written and oral form.

4.1 Students will recognize and use elements of the Latin and/or ancient Greek languages to increase knowledge of their own language and enhance cognitive skills.

4.2 Students will compare and contrast their own and other cultures with those of the ancient Mediterranean world to increase their understanding of the dynamics of human culture.

5. **Career Development.** Understand the nature of the Classics discipline and its varied applications outside the university.

5.1 Students will employ research methods, data bases, and other tools appropriate to current expectations within the classics discipline.

5.2 Students will participate in the larger community of classics professionals and non professionals and will pursue service and professional activities which serve as a bridge from campus to community.

### **THE STUDENT PORTFOLIO**

All incoming students will, in consultation with a faculty advisor, begin compiling a portfolio of their undergraduate major which reflects the goals as outlined above. The student maintains and keeps the complete portfolio, and a few items are copied for department records, as noted below. It is the Department's intent that such a portfolio will provide not only a record of the student's achievements, but will be valuable documentation for the student when applying to graduate school or for employment. Each undergraduate major in Classics will be expected to include, at a minimum, the following items in the student portfolio; other curricular and co curricular items may be included, at the student's discretion:

1. A statement of goals, to be completed early in the first semester of attendance **(with a copy to your advisor for your department file).**
2. An annual self-assessment, to be discussed with a faculty adviser, with appropriate modification of goals statement **(a copy of each goes to your advisor for your department file).**
3. Curriculum vitae -- a work in progress; to be discussed at each annual self-assessment conference and updated accordingly.
4. One written research paper each academic year of attendance; these papers must reflect the breadth of study in classics.
5. Extended translations into English from the original Latin and/or Greek, at least one in each language studied, each year.

6. In addition to 4 above, one additional paper which reflects the student's area of emphasis (language, archaeology, philosophy).
7. Faculty and/or peer evaluations of oral presentations, as appropriate.
8. Evidence of professional development: attendance at local, state, regional or national conferences, public readings, papers presented at conferences, participation in campus student organizations, student leadership, travel and excavation experience, participation in overseas academic programs, peer tutoring and K-12 involvement, development of software or Web site, and so on.
9. Finally, a statement of achievement, and final version of curriculum vitae (**a copy of each goes to your advisor for the department file**).

**Note:** For students who are gifted in Web development and Web site management, the portfolio could be developed as a Web site, with links to the various components.