

Educator Preparation Program Guide for Students **Latin and Classical Humanities**

Brief Program Description

Administered through the Department of Classics, the Master of Arts in Teaching Latin and Classical Humanities is the equivalent of an MA degree in Classics with supplementary graduate-level work in Education that provides a middle- and high-school teaching license in Latin and Classical Humanities, Grades 5-12, valid in some thirty states within the Interstate Licensure Compact. It is a coordinated program of study in educational theory and practice, Latin language and literature, methodology, and development of middle- and high school curriculum in Latin and Classical Humanities.

Who May Apply

Applicants should possess a BA in Latin or Classics.

Getting Started

Applicants are encouraged to have taken the following courses: surveys of Greek and Roman history, elementary and intermediate Greek, and four upper-level courses in Latin. Strongly recommended but not required: an undergraduate minor (at least 18 semester hours) in a second teaching area. A Romance language, especially Spanish, widens employment opportunities.

Admission Process and Criteria

Applications and further information may be obtained by writing to the graduate program director, whose address appears below. Deadline for application is February 1 for admission in the fall of the subsequent year. Only fall admissions are considered. Campus interviews are strongly recommended.

Applications are reviewed by the entire department and are evaluated on the basis of academic preparation for evidence of genuine commitment to a career as a teacher of Latin and Classical Humanities, grades 5-12.

Program of Study

This is a two-year program and consists of 56 credit hours. Candidates normally obtain 28 credits in the advanced study of Latin and methods of research and criticism; 16 credits in courses in professional practice taught both in the Classic Department and in the College of Education; 9 credits in pre-practicum and practicum (often called “student teaching”). Remaining credits accompany the teaching project and one hour

instructional planning courses that accompany being a teaching assistant on campus. All students must pass both portions (i.e., Communication and Literacy Skills & Latin subject matter) of the MTEL exam prior to being eligible for the practicum experience.

Advising

The program normally consists of 12 or 13 MAT students. Advising is therefore done by the Graduate Program Director in a series of one on one sessions throughout the candidate’s program of study.

Career Opportunities and Job Placement

Our program routinely has 100% placement with many completers receiving more than one offer. The department is actively involved in helping their successful completers find employment and is actively involved with the New England Latin Placement Service.

Program Specific Information

All students admitted into the MAT Program in Latin and Classical Humanities receive financial aid; most hold teaching assistantships. They teach sections of the undergraduate elementary and intermediate Latin courses, and they assist with correction of papers and examinations in undergraduate courses in Greek Civilization, Roman Civilization and Greek Mythology. When teaching the elementary and intermediate Latin courses, the teaching assistants meet weekly with professors in the Department, and the teaching assistants receive guidance on lesson planning, teaching and writing of exercises, quizzes and examinations, and they earn a total of three credits in instructional planning and assessment. When teaching the elementary and intermediate Latin courses, the teaching assistants are observed three times in the course of the semester by faculty in the Program and have opportunities to discuss the progress of their teaching.

For more information, please contact:

Dr. Teresa Ramsby
535 Herter Hall
The Classics Department
University of Massachusetts
Amherst, MA 01003
tramsby@classics.umass.edu
413-545-4608 www.umass.edu/classics

LICENSURE INFORMATION AND STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Massachusetts Tests for Educator Licensure (MTEL): The MTEL is required for licensure by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The test has two parts: the Communication and Literacy Skills (C&LS) test and the Subject area test(s). The University's policy is that:

- Undergraduates must achieve a passing score on the C&LS test as a pre-requisite for admission.
- Post-baccalaureate and graduate students must achieve a passing score on the C&LS test in their first semester of study.
- All students must pass the Subject test(s) (if one has been developed for that licensure field) before enrolling in the practicum.

Licensure Application Process: The Educator Licensure Office (ELO) in the College of Education coordinates the licensure application process for all University Educator Preparation program students who have completed all licensing requirements. The ELO provides information to guide students in using the Electronic Licensure and Recruitment system (ELAR), a system in which students apply for educator licenses online. The ELAR system requires a student to apply for his/her license online (including the payment of license fees) and send an official copy of his/her transcript to the ELO in Room W144 Furcolo Hall (being sure that the transcript includes the "Institutional Recommendation for Educator Licensure"). After individuals have applied online, the TEO endorses/recommends candidates for licensure via ELAR. The University Licensure Officer also assists students in completing applications for licensure in other states, as necessary.

Career and Job Search Assistance: The College of Education, in collaboration with Career Services, sponsors a Job Fair for prospective educators. The Job Fair draws school districts from Massachusetts, Connecticut, Vermont and New Hampshire. In addition, Career Services provides information and registration for the Massachusetts Educational Recruiting Consortium (MERC), a recruitment fair attended by school districts from across the nation.

The University of Massachusetts Amherst prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, gender, sexual preference, age, marital status, national origin, mental or physical handicap, political belief or affiliation, membership or non-membership in any organization, or veteran status, in any aspect of the admission or treatment of students or in employment.