THE DEPARTMENT OF GREEK, LATIN, AND ANCIENT MEDITERRANEAN STUDIES (GLAM) at Reed takes a multidisciplinary approach to the knowledge and analysis of the ancient Greek and Roman Mediterranean, as well as to the wider world that came into contact with Greeks and Romans. It embraces the study of Greek and Latin language and literature and the history, in addition to material culture, of both ancient Greek and Roman civilizations. GLAM majors often supplement their departmental courses by studying philosophy, political science, anthropology, art history, literature, theatre, religion, and linguistics.

GLAM majors choose to concentrate either in Greek and Latin language and literature or in history and archaeology of the ancient Mediterranean. Both concentrations are designed to familiarize students with the diverse cultures of the ancient Mediterranean. The two tracks equip students with analytical tools and resources to produce meaningful arguments from a vast array of primary sources and evidence.

Introductory Greek and Latin language classes focus on rapid and thorough acquisition of grammar, syntax, and vocabulary. Intermediate and advanced courses introduce students to reading literature in the original language and develop their interpretive skills.

In archaeology classes, students are introduced to the material culture of the ancient Mediterranean. Core courses focus on archaeological method and theory, preparing students to approach material culture analytically and to form social and historical arguments from material evidence.

“When I was a prospective student, I fell in love with the department. I sat in on a Latin class and the passion and energy among the students and the professor resonated with me. This was the kind of classroom setting I was looking for: hands-on, engaged, and communal.”

ELLIOT MENARD '19
Professor Sonia Sabnis  
LATIN & GREEK LITERATURE

Professor Sonia Sabnis studies and teaches the literature of the Roman empire. Her work primarily focuses on the works of Apuleius and Lucian and the ways in which these authors depict slavery, ethnic alterity, imperial authority, and animals. In addition to Humanities 110, she teaches Latin and Greek at all levels and particularly enjoys teaching Lucian, Hellenistic epigram, Apuleius, and Longus. Sonia has also taught Paideia classes on cryptic crossword puzzles, Indian comic books, and sentence diagramming.

STUDY ABROAD

GLAM majors are highly encouraged to study abroad and have a variety of programs to choose from, including the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome and College Year in Athens. Students also have the opportunity to participate in archaeological fieldwork, and have recently participated in excavations at the sites of Gabii (Italy) and Kenchreai (Greece).

ARCHEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA (AIA)

Tom Landvatter, Associate Professor of Greek, Latin, and Ancient Mediterranean Studies and Humanities, is the president of the AIA Portland Society. Reed hosts AIA lectures on campus, bringing speakers from all over the country. Featured lectures have covered a variety of topics:

- Neil Silberman, “Rebooting Antiquity: How Holy Wars, Media Hype, and Digital Technologies are Changing the Face of 21st Century Archaeology”
- Diana Ng, “Parading through History in Roman Ephesos”
- Garrett Fagan, “The Dangers of Pseudoarchaeology”
- Megan Daniels, “Big Histories: The Phoenicians and the Formation of the Mediterranean World”
- Anthony J. Barbieri-Low, “The Tombs of Scribes in Early Imperial China and Ancient Egypt”

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDY

Religion and Ancient Mediterranean Studies (REAM) is an interdisciplinary major in which students take courses in both departments. This major is ideal for students who want to study Greek or Latin as well as various methodologies in religion. Many REAM majors have produced their own translations of and commentaries on ancient religious texts for their senior thesis projects.