Honours Coordinator

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The closing date for applications is usually mid December.

Honours paths

An extra year in classical studies allows students to specialise in a particular field and to write a major piece of research. The Department of Classics and Ancient History offers multiple paths to an honours degree:

− Ancient History Honours
− Greek Honours
− Latin Honours
− Classics Honours

The Honours year can be the culmination of your study in classical studies or (with appropriate advising from the Honours co-ordinator) a pathway to further research in our postgraduate program. In either case it develops worthwhile transferable skills in analysis and critical argumentation.

Qualifying for Honours

Qualifications for Honours vary from path to path. If you are considering an Honours year, it is best to seek early advice on all the pathways open to you and the skills you will need to do your best.

Ancient History
Our formal prerequisites are an average of 70 or above in 36 senior credit points of Ancient History including ANHS3635 (or equivalent) PLUS 12 junior or senior credit points (or equivalent) of Ancient Greek or Latin.

Latin
Our formal prerequisites are a major in Latin with 70 or more average.

Ancient Greek
Our formal prerequisites are a major in Ancient Greek with 70 or more average.

Classics
Our formal prerequisites are EITHER a major in Latin with an average of 70 or more plus 18 additional credit points of Greek (including GRKA2601) OR a major in Ancient Greek with an average of 70 or more plus 18 additional credit points of Latin (including LATN2601).

Meeting the minimum entry requirements does not guarantee you entry into the Honours program. Honours places can only be granted where there is also supervisory capacity. It is reasonable for a program to decline an application for honours if there is insufficient capacity to provide an appropriate supervisor.
How do I apply?

If you are interested in applying, you should discuss your application with the departmental Honours coordinator (James Tan) who must approve your programme before you submit your application.

In 2019 the Department of Classics and Ancient History will be accepting mid-year Honours enrolments in Ancient Greek, Latin and Classics but not in Ancient History.

Honours students need to register with the Department of Classics and Ancient History, preferably before Friday 27 October 2018. See form attached to this document.

Once you have been accepted into the Honours program by the Honours Coordinator (or Coordinators for Joint Honours) please go to Sydney Courses and locate your Degree with Honours (e.g. Bachelor of Arts Honours). Click on ‘Apply’ on the right-hand side.

Please note: although there is a note below ‘Apply’ that indicates that the information is for prospective students, current students are also deemed ‘prospective students’ for Honours and therefore need to apply through Sydney Student.

Undertaking Honours

Once accepted, students in the honours program will participate in research seminars and will complete a thesis. The overall mark is based on a ratio of 20% per seminar and 60% for the thesis.

Students who successfully complete the program are awarded an Honours degree at one of several levels (e.g. First Class; Second Class, Division One and so forth – see below).

In all cases, the Honours co-ordinator can advise you on acceptable equivalents to our standard requirements for qualification. Students wishing to take Honours should consult members of the Department's staff about the prerequisites and corequisites for honours and what is involved in an Honours course.

Thesis

The thesis word length is 20 000 words. That count includes discursive footnotes but not simple references, and includes discursive appendices but not compilations of evidence. Any thesis exceeding this word limit by more than 10% will not be accepted for marking.

Seminars

Ancient History Honours seminars for 2018

**Trends in Greek History**: (Semester 1)
Dr Ben Brown

**Trends in Roman History**: Julio-Claudians (and a bit of Flavian…) (Semester 1)
Dr James Tan

Greek Honours seminars for 2019

**Research Skills in Greek Prose: Plato** (semester 1)
Prof. Rick Benitez

**Research Skills in Greek Poetry: Aristophanes** (semester 2)
Dr Bob Cowan
Latin Honours seminars for 2019

**Research Skills in Latin Poetry: Statius and Seneca** (semester 1)
Dr Robert Cowan

**Research Skills in Latin Prose: Sallust and Livy** (semester 2)
Dr Paul Roche

Classics Honours seminars for 2019

Students may choose any two of the above seminars offered for Greek Honours and Latin Honours, one in each language. Students may not, however, choose two seminars in Semester 2.

**Marking**

**Honours Grade Descriptors**

80-100: First Class (I)

90+
Work demonstrating the highest levels of accomplishment and intellectual autonomy that can be expected from an undergraduate student. An overall Honours mark of 90 or higher is a requirement for the award of a University Medal, though Medals are not automatically awarded to students with overall results of 90 or more.

In many fields of the humanities and social sciences, a mark in this range indicates substantial and innovative research; wide and deep reading in the scholarly literature; sophisticated, perceptive, and original interpretations of data, documentary evidence, fieldwork, literary texts, or works of art; and a very high level of independent thought and argument.

In work written in a language other than English, a mark in this range indicates an excellent level of grammatical accuracy, syntactical sophistication, and nuance in use of vocabulary and register.

85-89
Work that demonstrates a very high level of proficiency in the methodologies, subject matter, and modes of expression and argumentation appropriate to the field or fields studied. Work in this range shows strong promise for doctoral study.

In many fields of the humanities and social sciences, a mark in this range indicates substantial original research; wide and deep reading in the scholarly literature; a very high level of skill in interpreting data, documentary evidence, fieldwork, literary texts, or works of art; and a high level of independent thought.

In work written in a language other than English, a mark in this range indicates a very high level of grammatical accuracy with only some mistakes, as well as syntactical sophistication, and nuance in use of vocabulary and register.

80-84
Work that demonstrates a high level of proficiency in the methodologies, subject matter, and modes of expression and argumentation appropriate to the field or fields studied, and shows potential for doctoral study.

In many fields of the humanities and social sciences, a mark in this range can indicate thorough research; a firm grasp of the relevant scholarly literature; and a high level of skill in interpreting data, documentary evidence, fieldwork, literary texts, or works of art.
In work written in a language other than English, a mark in this range indicates a very high level of grammatical accuracy with few mistakes and only very rare basic errors, with vocabulary and syntax varied and expression highly coherent and well structured.

75-79: Second Class, First Division (II.1)
Work that demonstrates a generally sound knowledge of the methodologies, subject matter, and modes of expression and argumentation appropriate to the field or fields studied.

In many fields of the humanities and social sciences, a mark in this range can indicate solid research; a firm grasp of the relevant scholarly literature; and competent interpretations of data, documentary evidence, fieldwork, literary texts, or works of art. However, work in this range may also show evidence of a higher level of independent thought combined with some significant lapses in research or expression.

In work written in a language other than English, a mark in this range indicates a high standard of grammatical accuracy with few mistakes and only very rare basic errors, with vocabulary and syntax varied and expression highly coherent and well structured.

70-74: Second Class, Second Division (II.2)
Work that demonstrates an adequate but limited performance in the methodologies, subjects, and/or languages studied.

In many fields of the humanities and social sciences, a mark in this range can indicate an adequate general knowledge of the subject from the reading of both primary material and secondary literature, straightforward argumentation, and clear expression. A mark in this range may also reflect a superior performance in one or more of these areas combined with serious lapses in others.

In work written in a language other than English, a mark in this range indicates a good standard of grammatical accuracy, albeit with some mistakes, including occasional basic ones; the work shows a good grasp of complex sentence structures and an appropriately varied vocabulary.

65-69: Third Class (III)
Work only barely above the standard of pass-degree work in the field studied. A mark in this range indicates a basic but limited understanding of the methodologies and subject matter of the field or fields studied, and skills in argument and expression that are only just adequate for Honours-level study and research.

Below 65%
Honours not awarded.