Classical Studies has been making a significant contribution to academic life at Michigan since the university’s founding in 1817. The department is internationally renowned for its scholarly excellence, its graduate programs, and its deep commitment to the education of undergraduates at the university. Our distinguished reputation places us among the top five classics departments in the country. We engage in the study of every aspect of life in Greece (ancient and modern) and Rome—language and literature, art and material cultures, philosophy, history, political theory, law, and religion. Together, faculty and students explore all these subjects, both in the context of cognate Mediterranean and Near Eastern cultures and in light of the later civilizations that drew upon this classical foundation.

Training in ancient cultures and languages is important because many works and thoughts of the Greeks and Romans provide historical perspective to questions that are debated in our time. The study of classical civilizations teaches us to appreciate that people in other cultures think differently, follow different models, and approach the world from different premises. We learn to see ourselves and our society in historical and human perspectives. Faculty and undergraduates work closely with the Kelsey Museum and its collection of antiquities and the Papyrus Collection in the Harlan Hatcher Graduate Library. Students learn valuable skills such as critical and analytical thinking and competence in oral and written communication. As a result, our graduates have gone on to distinguished careers in medicine, law, the media, government, education, business, and many other professions.
In order to maintain and improve our excellence, we seek to recruit top faculty and to provide them with the resources needed to remain at the forefront of research. We must also attract the brightest students to our programs and offer the most rigorous and rewarding educational experience available in the nation. To this end, we seek to create more opportunities for interdisciplinary scholarship through postdoctoral fellowships, which would allow our students to work in tandem with other units to conduct research, teach, and analyze materials. Supporting teacher training and boosting our library resources rounds out the ways that gifts can help the department to grow and flourish for future generations of scholars.

**UNDERGRADUATE OPPORTUNITIES FUND**

Gifts ranging from $10,000–$50,000 annually will provide co-curricular activities and off-campus experiences for our undergraduates. Many students cannot spend an entire term studying abroad, so this fund will provide support for an annual short study trip to Greece, Italy, or other parts of the classical world as a capstone experience.

**GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH SUPPORT**

Off-campus study and research is crucial to graduate education in Classical Studies and the Interdepartmental Program in Ancient History. Both programs currently provide limited support for research travel and internships. We would like to raise support to address two specific needs: a) research projects and internships, and b) study visits to overseas research institutes and universities. Gifts of $50,000 annually will support this critical area.

**INSTITUTE FOR ARCHAEOLOGY**

Archaeology provides a unique perspective on the past, and the University of Michigan has been a national leader in archaeological research and education for several decades. Unlike most of our peer institutions, moreover, U-M is equally strong in both Old World and New World archaeology, and in both the area-studies based traditions of Classical and Near Eastern archaeology and the anthropological approaches of prehistoric archaeology, including the archaeology of the Americas. A major fund-raising priority of the Department of Classical Studies is to establish a university-wide Institute for Archaeology, which would build on and strengthen existing ties between departments and forge new links with students and scholars across the University who share common interests in the material aspects of human culture.

The institute would provide both a physical and an intellectual meeting place for students, research scientists, and members of the faculty engaged in all aspects of archaeological education and research. It would function like a science laboratory, providing specialized technical support—and like a traditional U-M center or institute, providing an intellectual framework for interdisciplinary activities such as lectures and workshops.

“Studying classics was the most interesting and personally enriching educational experience I could have hoped for. I found myself feeling more deeply connected to humanity and optimistic of its creativity than I had ever felt before. And the skills I developed by studying classics—close reading, analysis, critical thinking—have really served me well in law.”

—Alexandra Andre, A.B. ’17, J.D. ’21, Staff Attorney at Michigan Immigrant Rights Center
Different units, especially the Kelsey Museum and the Museum of Anthropology, as well as the Departments of Anthropology, Classical Studies, the History of Art, and Middle East Studies all currently provide support for both teaching and research in archaeology. The new institute would complement that support by contributing independent teaching and research facilities and work space for both student- and faculty-directed field projects.

One increasingly important aspect of contemporary archaeology not presently supported by the university is digital spatial analysis, ranging from remote sensing to geophysical prospection and from GIS (Geographical Information Systems) to complex photo-modeling. By providing these services (through both equipment and staffing), the Institute for Archaeology could enhance teaching and research, draw interested units closer together, and strengthen ties with related units, such as the School for Environment and Sustainability and the Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning.

Another unusual aspect of archaeology is its intersection with the natural sciences, especially biology (archaeobotany and archaeozoology) and geology (chemical analysis of pottery and stone). A new Institute of Archaeology would strengthen the university’s existing commitments to archaeological science by providing a home base for research scientists in fields not currently covered by the university, such as archaeological geology.

Gifts of various sizes would provide the funding needed to bring the institute to fruition. A $10M endowed gift comes with the opportunity to name the institute while a $6M endowed gift or a $4M expendable gift is needed for us to launch this program priority.

**FACILITY AND EQUIPMENT TO LAUNCH:**
- Teaching and research facilities: $3.5M expendable
- Laboratory Equipment: $500,000 expendable

**ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR NAMED INSTITUTE:**
- Directorship: $2.5M endowed
- Two postdoctoral positions: $75,000 each annually / $1.5M each endowed
- Laboratory equipment and maintenance: $25,000 annually / $500,000 endowed

**WAYS TO FUND YOUR GIFT**

Your gifts of cash, pledges, or appreciated securities change lives. Wills, estate, and planned gifts allow you to create a lasting legacy that will enable the best and brightest minds to experience a liberal arts education, solve problems in a changing world, and yield ideas and innovations that will make a difference in Michigan and around the globe.

**CONTACT INFO**

LSA Advancement // College of Literature, Science, and the Arts
101 N. Main Street, Suite 850 // Ann Arbor, MI 48104

P. 734.615.6333 // F. 734.647.3061 // lsa.umich.edu/classics