The Bachelor’s programme Ancient Studies covers the history of ancient cultures – from Ancient Greece and Rome to the wider Mediterranean, the Middle East and beyond – and their reception throughout the ages. You will learn how to critically approach a variety of different sources, including ancient textual and material remains, and learn about central themes such as cultural transmission.

Why study Ancient Studies in Amsterdam?

- **Extensive expertise.** The programme is part of the combined UvA and VU Amsterdam Centre for Ancient Studies and Archaeology (ACASA), and houses a strong team of lecturers and researchers.
- **Amsterdam as a hub for ancient studies.** Amsterdam, one of the most vibrant cultural and cosmopolitan cities of the world, is home to museums such as the Allard Pierson Museum, whose collections you will work with.
- **Unique approach.** Ancient Studies is unique in the Netherlands in that its central theme is cultural

'David Rijser, lecturer

'More and more attention was given to studying how ancient texts and cultures have been valued throughout the ages. So, Ancient Studies came into being. We now have a programme in which contact between cultures forms a central theme, both within antiquity and beyond. You will see how later admirers of antiquity – from Dante to the fascists – reached their verdicts, but also how their work influenced our own outlook on the classical past.'
transmission – between the Middle East, the Mediterranean world and Europe. Its approach is interdisciplinary and you will also cooperate with students of Archaeology and Classics.

- Specialisations. You can choose to specialise in Ancient History, Archaeology or Ancient Near Eastern Studies.
- Small-scale and personal. You will actively participate in intensive, small-scale seminars and become acquainted with your lecturers and fellow students.
- International character. The programme’s scope and teaching language will help prepare you for the international academic and professional world.

Master’s programme

After completing this Bachelor’s in Ancient Studies, you are eligible to enrol in, among others, the ACASA Master’s programme Classics and Ancient Civilizations (Research MA)

Fleur van der Sande, student

‘During your studies, you will learn to work with both textual and material sources. This makes the programme really versatile. The world of Antiquity, including the Middle East, is studied as a whole, which means you will see that areas around the Mediterranean Sea and in West Asia already influenced each other at this point in time.

I am learning Akkadian (the language of ancient Iraq) and I study cuneiform tablets, but I also tag along on archaeological fieldwork trips and attend archaeological-historical seminars on Greece. For me, personally, what makes this programme so amazing is the fact that you are able to do so many different things and that this gives you such a comprehensive image of Antiquity.’
Job market

Obtaining a Bachelor’s degree in Ancient Studies from the UvA and VU’s ACASA will prime you for a career in the field of culture and education. With your skillset, you will be able to work in museums and other heritage institutions, education, publishing, journalism and cultural tourism. Other disciplines are within your reach, too, as your academic skills will give you access to many different kinds of jobs. Graduates can, of course, also continue their academic careers, and conduct their own research.

Visit us

We advise you to attend the UvA or the VU’s Bachelor’s Day, where you will receive more information concerning this programme and will have the opportunity to ask questions.