Hi My name is Professor Michael Scott and I am the Director of Undergraduate Studies in the Department of Classics and Ancient History at the University of Warwick.

Welcome to the Live Virtual Open Day Chat! I am here to answer your questions and help you find out more about studying with us in Classics and Ancient History at Warwick.

To kick us off, please respond to the poll below so I know which degree courses you are interested in finding out about. And at any point during the chat, please feel free to ask any questions that come to mind.

**Which degree course are you interested in?**
- WV14 Ancient History and Classical Archaeology 100.0%

Hello

Hi Jake - welcome. So you are interested in WV16 Ancient History and Classical Archaeology course?

Yeah, its two of my passions at the moment! I was wanting to know more about what Warwick has to offer

Hello

Sorry- update, that should have read the WV14 Ancient History and Classical Archaeology course!

That's ok ;)

Yeah, its two of my passions at the moment! I was wanting to know more about what Warwick has to offer

Sure - how about we start by watching a brief video with comments from students in our department?
Why study Classics and Ancient History at Warwick?

https://youtu.be/vVeJoRSjflg

Ok, that's great

Great - when you have watched, let me know and do shout with any questions.

What would you say a typical day is for a classics student?

hmm - tough one as there is rarely such a thing as a typical day. But across the weeks, our students would have 8-10 hours of contact time (lectures, language classes, seminars) and then be expected to be doing follow up work from their lectures, or preparing their assessed work for each of their modules, or working on their language homework for another say 20+ hours (so say 2h of private study for each 1h of contact time). Then they would also have sports, societies, social stuff to fit in (for example Wednesday afternoons here there is no teaching scheduled as that is a sports afternoon).
I've posted an information sheet about the Ancient History and Classical Archaeology degree programme which gives you more information about the specific course you are interested in.

That's really interesting to hear. Moving from school to university is quite worrying, especially with the reduced time in classes. Yes that is the big difference to get used to - you are responsible for much more of the work, and in motivating yourself to do it. It takes some time to get right - which is why at Warwick none of your 1st year marks count towards your final degree result. You need to pass everything but we recognise that it takes some time to get used to working at degree level. Then in your 2nd and 3rd years all your marks count towards your final degree, once you have got used to how best to study at University.

I like the idea of being part of the societies though. Is there a Classics society?

That's really interesting to hear. Moving from school to university is quite worrying, especially with the reduced time in classes. Yes - a very active one! Check out their Facebook page and also website. They run annual trips abroad and across the UK, as well as regular socials and get togethers, sports teams, toga parties, and they also run the annual ancient Greek play. So if you are interested in drama then its a great thing to get involved in.

I like the idea of being part of the societies though. Is there a Classics society?

That sounds really good. I do like the idea of joining societies when I move to university.

Warwick has more student societies I believe than any other university - so lots of choice.

Let me know when you have read the W14 info sheet - and I'll change it to the different kinds of module courses you can take as part of your degree with us.

Ok, thanks. Can I ask a question on work placements?

Sure - what's the question on work placements?

I really would like to get some experience of working or maybe volunteering while I'm at Uni. Is that possible?

So there are too ways to do that. First - you can work with us in the department and our outreach programmes. We run something called the Warwick Classics Network to help our students and staff work with schools across the country to introduce and continue the teaching of classical subjects in schools. So you can help with these activities during the course of your degree.

I volunteer now, and I was wondering if I should mention this on my application form.
I really would like to get some experience of working or maybe volunteering while I'm at Uni. Is that possible?

Second - you can choose to take up a placement during the University holidays. This could be with a museum locally (or at home where you volunteer now), or it could also be to participate on an archaeological excavation in the UK or abroad.

I really like the sound of the archaeological digs. Where abouts do these happen?

I really would like to get some experience of working or maybe volunteering while I'm at Uni. Is that possible?

At the moment all of these things happen external to your degree course (ie they are not formally part of your degree). But in the future, we may look to incorporate a work placement within the degree course itself.

I volunteer now, and I was wondering if I should mention this on my application form.

Yes absolutely - everything that helps us understand why you want to study this subject, why you love it, is really important to mention!

I really like the sound of the archaeological digs. Where abouts do these happen?

That depends on your interests, and where there are available placements. Current students have excavated in Pompeii, in the Roman forum, as well as in Vindolanda in the UK. You can also apply for a place on the British School at Athens and British School at Rome Undergraduate Archaeological summer schools, which take you round on a big tour of all the major sites.

Our Modules

Second and Third Year Modules (Selection, not all modules run every year)

- Art and Architecture of the Ancient Near East
- Cuneiform Script and Writing
- Principles and Methods of Classical Archaeology
- The Roman Year Text
- Ancient History
- City of Rome
- Death, Disease, and Imperialism
- Food and Kindle in the Ancient Mediterranean
- Greek Religion
- History of Medicine in the Ancient World
- Receptions of Antiquity: East and West
- The Roman Economy
- The Roman Empire: From Heaven to Hell
- The Transformation of Roman Society under Augustus
- The Roman Empire from Antiquity to Post-Conquest
- Greek and Roman Classical Themes in Modern Communications
- Greek Language and Literature
- Latin Classical Themes
- Latin and Classical Themes in Modern Communications
- Latin Language and Literature
- Latin Literature
- Latin Library Talks
- Latin Literature and Latin Language

VV14 pg2

I've put up the module choice page for VV14 degree course - so you can see the different modules you can choose to study during your 2nd and 3rd years.
Are there any sites in the UK?

Yes, there can be, like Vindolanda (up near Hadrian's wall)

How many modules can I choose each year?

In your first year you take 3 modules (Greek Culture and society, Roman culture and society, Introduction to Greek and Roman history) + a language. In your 2nd year you take Hellenistic world as a core module, and then you choose 3 other modules. In your 3rd year you do a dissertation, and then you choose 3 other modules.

What qualities are you looking for when considering prospective students?

Most importantly - a passion for the ancient world. So anything and everything you have done to demonstrate that is important to convey in your personal statement.

Rewarding Excellence

- Arts Excellence Scholarship 2020 available for students starting courses in 2020-21 academic year.
- Awarded to any student who achieves AAA or better at A level or equivalent.
- Scholarship of £1,000 per student, for UK-domiciled undergraduate students.*
- Students will be automatically awarded the scholarship if they apply through UCAS application, adjustment or clearing.

*For further details, visit www.warwick.ac.uk/aq

Also I have shared a slide about how we reward great Alevel results at Warwick!

Will any decision on my application be based on my grades, or do you look at other things as well?

We look first at achieved grades. Then at your personal statement. Then at your reference (and only then at your predicted grades).

That sounds amazing. Thanks for letting me know
Im glad to hear you don't interview.

This is the typical offer you will receive (in advance of your Alevel results). If you receive an offer from us, you will also be invited to an Offer holder open day in February - March 2020 time (if you are applying for entry in October 2020), where you can meet staff and students, hear some lectures and get to know us.

I did visit on an open day earlier this year. It would be interesting to see the department again

I thought the campus was lovely, and the students that I met seemed really friendly

I did visit on an open day earlier this year. It would be interesting to see the department again

Ah great - yes the offer holder open day is just for those with offers from us, so it's a really great chance to meet loads of people in the department and really get a feel for studying with us

I thought the campus was lovely, and the students that I met seemed really friendly

Yes - we pride ourselves on having a really friendly and welcoming community

I really did like the department. I thought the staff were really knowledgeable and welcoming

Do you have any advice for the personal statement?

I've completed the first draft now, and I'm just trying to finalise it

Ah great to hear! We like our students to work with us on lots of student projects - like our student research projects.
Do you have any advice for the personal statement?

Don't make anything up. Be honest about your interest in the ancient world and tell us about any exhibitions, books, films, volunteering work you do that shows your interest in Classics.

I've completed the first draft now, and I'm just trying to finalise it.

Good job!

I'm going to show you another video from our students talking about our modules.

Classics at the University of Warwick

https://youtu.be/CM9wcCPYJ-w

Would you recommend learning Italian?

I know a little from holidays in Italy, but I'm not sure if it would be useful for my studies.

I'll put up our study in Europe options - where students learn Italian with us alongside an ancient language in year 1, and then carry on learning Italian in year 2, before going to study in a classics department in an Italian university in year 3, then returning to us in Warwick for their final year in year 4.

Study in Europe
Just recently we have also agreed options for our students to study in German universities (so you would learn German instead of Italian in your first 2 years here before going to spend the year in Germany).

That sounds very interesting.

I love Italy. Its one of my favourite countries.

And there is another option, known as the Study Abroad option, where you go to spend your 3rd year in the Classics department at Monash University, in Melbourne Australia (for which of course you dont need to learn a different language in your first two years)

To do our study in Europe degrees, you need to show evidence of good language learning already (so for example a modern or ancient language to Alevel, or 2 languages at GCSE level). But for the study abroad in Australia version, there are no language requirements

Ok.... thats worth considering.

Can I choose the archaeology course and have a language element?

Yes everyone of our degrees requires that students learn an ancient language in their 1st year. After that, if you like the ancient languages, you can continue to study them as one of your 3 module options (you can carry on learning the one you started in your 1st year e.g. Latin, or you can choose to start the other e.g. ancient Greek.

Ok, that's really helpful. thank you so much for answering my questions today

No problem. Any more questions do just get in touch with us via email (a.cooley@warwick.ac.uk - thats Prof Alison Cooley who is the admissions officer) or with me (m.c.scott@warwick.ac.uk). I'll leave you with a slide that sums up why we think you should choose to study with us at Warwick! We look forward to your application! All best wishes Michael

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**WHY WARWICK?**

**Close-knit and welcoming community:**
- High level of one-to-one staff-student contact time (1:12) including face-to-face feedback on work, personal tutoring, and opportunities to work with staff on research projects.
- Diverse and inclusive staff & student population.

**Language is central:**
- Offering opportunity for all students to learn Latin or Greek, or continue previous study, with structured support.
- A wide, and dynamic, variety of module choice; our modules are continuously updated and new modules are created.
- Innovative and flexible teaching styles - thanks to the Institute for Advanced Teaching and Learning at Warwick (practical workshops, performance, digital storytelling etc.)

**Why Warwick?**
Thank you ... bye

I was too late

Hi Jerome - welcome! Sadly yes we don't have much time to chat now. I will show you a quick video about studying at Warwick Classics

Why study Classics and Ancient History at Warwick?

https://youtu.be/veVJoR5fug