

How Do We Retain Latin HS Students When They Get to College?

Because language requirements for undergraduates at many colleges have been reduced to one or two semesters, many HS students of Greek and/or Latin will have already fulfilled their language graduation requirement, either through the Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), or other programs upon entry to college. As a result, such qualified students often escape the radar of Classics programs, who might otherwise continue the language at more advanced levels and serve as promising program majors/minors.

At this roundtable, faculty will discuss how best to capture and encourage incoming freshmen or transfers to continue advanced study of Greek/Latin despite their fulfillment of their university's limited one or two semester language requirement. Strategies and questions might include: Might we reach out to such students in advance, via Admissions, orientation events, mailers, or other means? How do we inspire students to continue the language(s) beyond the AP or IB levels? Should we consider interdisciplinary and innovative approaches to the continued study of the languages with other areas, such as International Studies, Business, or the Social and Natural Sciences? What can CAMWS and other organizations do to help?