

## Unwritten Rules: The Art of Being a Graduate Student

Successfully navigating graduate education in Classics involves, among other things, adapting to a set of social norms intrinsic to the profession. While these are not entirely divorced from what we would expect to see in other professional settings, they manifest in ways perhaps not entirely identical with what we find elsewhere either. For entering graduate students, the task of orienting oneself to these norms is not always straightforward. This paper seeks to address some of the unwritten rules and desirable norms that can set graduate students on the path to success in their professional and social interactions with others in the field. Among other issues, it will consider the idea of graduate study as an apprenticeship to the profession; the consequences of treating it—and not treating it—as full-scale employment from Day One, and what such a notion entails in practical terms; email etiquette and other modes of day-to-day professional interaction; what proper boundaries, safely estimated, are, and why and how to respect them (regardless of what other behaviour one may witness or hear of in any segment of the Classics population); and, last but not least, why not to use a Classics Department as one's all-purpose go-to resource during graduate study—and instead how to use other campus resources to full effect.