

*Doceo, ergo sum: Translating the Skills of the Graduate Student into a Successful Teacher*

Students pursuing an advanced degree in Latin or the Classics often have some interest in the dissemination of Classical knowledge or teaching in general, but feel uncertain how or if a professional change is a good fit for them. I hope to provide some insight from my experience “switching gears,” from an upper level degree program into the world of teaching middle school and secondary school students.

In 2012, I obtained an M.A. in Classics at Washington University at St. Louis, a degree after which I had fully intended to segue into a Ph.D. program, but I found that I thrived on student interactions, and couldn't let myself go forward without exploring the possibility of teaching.

This fall will begin my fourth year after making the choice to pursue teaching, and it has been a very positive and fulfilling turn in my life. I will be sharing the steps I took to make this change, highlighting the transition of skills between academia and teaching, the possible pitfalls of making the leap, and the newfound professional and learning opportunities afforded by this change.