Classics, the department of R. H. Jesse, was established with the University in 1839 (Rules establishing the University, ss. 30-32). Latin was required to enter the University.

Sept. 1842 courses of instruction open, taught in Columbia College building

May 1843 five professorships, incl. Chair of ancient and modern languages and literature

Oct. 1859 plan to adopt UVa model with seven departments (Latin and Greek are two)

March 1960 original plan restored with five professors (Latin and Greek are one)

1891 Greek, Latin are divided

1891 – 1892 Walter Miller, John Pickard arrive: Classical Greek archaeologists & historians of ancient culture

1892 Academic Hall fire; Chemistry Hall (later Pickard Hall) built

1893 Swallow Hall built (named for G.C. Swallow, first professor of geology, chemistry, and agriculture)

1894 - 1895 Classical Archaeology becomes an independent department; moves to New Academic (later Jesse) Hall

1900 Archaeology is renamed Classical Archaeology and the History of Art

1907 Latin and Greek no longer required for A.B. degree

1930 – 1938 Walter Miller becomes professor of Classical Languages and Archaeology (all three areas, Classics, Archaeology, and Art History are united in one department in 1935)

1955 – 1964 Anna Shaw Benjamin serves as chair of Classical Languages and Archaeology

1960 – 61 Classical Languages and Archaeology listed as one department in Lowry Hall archives of the College of Arts and Science

1961 – 1962 Classical Languages and Classical Archaeology listed as separate departments in Lowry Hall archives of the College of Arts and Science

1967 Board of Curators approves joint PhD in Classical Archaeology and Classics

1968 General Classroom Building built (Arvarh Strickland, first faculty member of color 1969)

1968 Department of Classical Languages moves from Jesse to GCB
1972 **Department of Classical Studies** curriculum revised to emphasize historical and social contexts (“new directions”)

1974 **Department of Art History and Archaeology** moves from Jesse Hall to Pickard Hall

1992 **Department of Classical Studies** undergraduate curriculum strengthens language instruction and adds humanities emphasis

1993 **Departments of Art History and Archaeology and Classical Studies** separate PhD programs with the consensus of the graduate and undergraduate deans of the College of A&S

2013 **Pickard Hall** closes for renovation

2015 **Swallow Hall** reopens after three-year renovation; home of **Department of Art History and Archaeology**

Feb. 2017 Proposal for **Department of Ancient Mediterranean Studies** submitted to Dean Pat Okker

July 1 2017 **Department of Ancient Mediterranean Studies** (combining **Classics and Classical Archaeology**) approved and put into effect by Interim Chancellor Garnett Stokes

July 13, 2017 relocation of Classicists’ offices to Swallow Hall proposed to Dean Pat Okker

July 17, 2017 Classicists’ move discussed with Associate Dean of Research Cooper Drury and Sue Becklenberg, Director III, Business Administration

July 21, 2017 Associate Dean of Research Cooper Drury confirms move of **Classical Studies** faculty and graduate student offices from Strickland Hall to Swallow Hall

August 11 – present 2017 Classicists move to Swallow Hall

Jan. 25, 2018 Academic Program Analysis Task Force Review recommends inactivation of twenty-seven graduate programs including the MA and PhD in **Classics (= Ancient Mediterranean Studies)**

May 16, 2018 Chancellor Alexander Cartwright closes twelve graduate programs; slates nineteen including the MA and PhD in **Classical Studies (= Ancient Mediterranean Studies)** for further review

Sources:


F. Stephens, *A History of the University of Missouri* (Columbia MO 1962)

MU Archives (317 Lowry Hall)

J. Viles, *The University of Missouri: A Centennial History* (Columbia MO 1939)

http://muarchives.missouri.edu/historic/buildings