

THE
LONDON
LIBRARY

A guide to the Classics collection

General information

Materials in the Classics have been widely collected from the Library's beginnings: there are now substantial holdings of 19th and early-20th century materials, as well as copies of more recent books and periodicals.

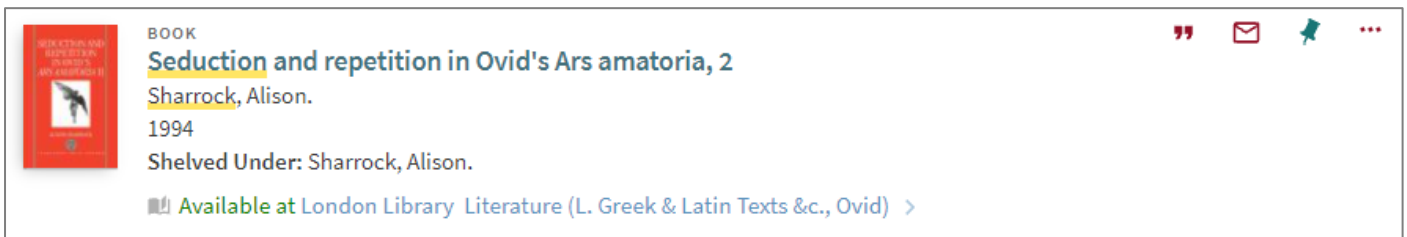
The Library aims to provide **editions** of every significant work in classical Greek and Latin, and also a representative selection of Byzantine and medieval Latin works. **Commentaries** on the more important works are acquired, together with a broad range of **secondary literature**. There is also a significant number of **bilingual editions** (most notably the *Loeb classical library* series) and **translations**.

In addition, the Library's collections include sections on both Greek and Latin **language**. The most important classical **encyclopaedias** and **dictionaries** are also available.

Understanding shelfmarks

The collection is divided into broad subject areas (History, Literature, Topography, for example) and then into smaller areas, arranged alphabetically. Within each section, books are generally arranged by author name but edited titles are filed under the book title instead. Check the Catalyst record for the 'shelved under' information.

In order to make the most effective use of space, the collection is also shelved by size. Check the end of shelf marks for the notations 4to (quarto), Folio and Folio Extra Large that may indicate a different place to look for the books.



The screenshot shows a book record for "Seduction and repetition in Ovid's Ars amatoria, 2" by Alison Sharrock, published in 1994. The record includes a small image of the book cover, the title, author, and year. It also indicates the shelving location: "Shelved Under: Sharrock, Alison." and "Available at London Library Literature (L. Greek & Latin Texts &c., Ovid)". There are icons for quote, email, pin, and more options in the top right corner.

Above is an example of a book record from the catalogue. Here you can see that the book is shelved under the author's name and that it is available (i.e. on the shelf) in the literature section (L), in the sub-section for Greek & Latin Texts &c., sub-section Ovid and then shelved under Sharrock.

Books may be requested and put aside for ready for collection, but we would always encourage members to browse the shelves for themselves and discover the books they did not know they needed. Items from the Library's Special Collections that cannot be borrowed, can be consulted in the Library under supervised conditions with 72 hours' notice.

Shelving Arrangements

The Library's books on the Classics are to be found in three main areas of the building:

1. Literature

Begins on the 3rd floor of the St James's Building and continues on the 4th (use the small staircase in Literature stacks), under the following shelf-marks:

L Greek Lit., Hist of

General works (on more than two writers) on Greek and Byzantine literature.

L Greek & Latin Text &c.

Ancient Greek, Byzantine and classical Latin texts in alphabetical order of catalogue main entry (ie by author, or by title for anonymous works). Within each subdivision, text editions (including all bilingual editions apart from those of the *Loeb classical library* series) are shelved in order of publication date, with secondary literature and commentaries without text following. Critical studies on two writers are shelved under the first named one; those on more than two writers are shelved in L. Greek Lit., Hist. of, or, L. Latin Lit., Hist. of.

L Greek & Latin Lit., Trans.

Translations of Greek and Latin works and copies of the *Loeb classical library* series.

L Later Latin Lit.

Medieval Latin texts, commentaries and critical studies.

L Later Latin Lit., Trans.

Translations of medieval Latin texts.

L Latin Lit., Hist of

General works on the history of classical and late antique Latin literature (covering more than two writers).

L Medieval Lit., Hist. of

Includes works on the history of medieval Latin literature.

2. Language

In the Philology section, in the Basement, Philology [8vo] includes the following relevant subdivisions:

Classical

Works on both Greek and Latin language, the history of classical scholarship, and subject encyclopædias. *Harvard studies in classical philology* and *Yale classical studies*.

Greek, Ancient

Grammars, dictionaries and linguistic works covering ancient and Byzantine Greek.

Inscriptions

Editions of Greek and Latin inscriptions and relevant critical studies. *Supplementum epigraphicum Græcum*.

Latin

Grammars, dictionaries and linguistic works covering ancient and medieval Latin.

Palæography

Works on Greek and Latin palæography.

Papyri

Editions of Greek and Latin papyri and relevant critical studies.

(Philology 4to books are arranged in one unsubdivided sequence.)

3. Reference Works

In the main Reading Room, under the following subdivisions:

Classical

Dictionaries and encyclopædias, such as *Pauly's Realencyclopädie der Classischen Altertumswissenschaft*, *Der Neue Pauly* and the *Oxford classical dictionary*.

Greek (Ancient)

Ancient and patristic Greek language dictionaries.

Latin

Classical and mediæval Latin language dictionaries.

Periodicals

The Library holds many periodical titles that complement the classics collection. Many of these titles are either no longer subscribed or are defunct but the Library retains back issues in its collection. Some titles may be shelved in the Societies sequence, or be available online only, or kept off-site. Please check the Library Catalogue for details of holdings. Titles include:

American journal of philology

L'année philologique (in Bibliography, Classical – 5th Floor)

Archivum latinitatis mediævi

Bulletin of the Institute of Classical Studies

Byzantine and modern Greek studies

Byzantinische Zeitschrift

Byzantinoslavica

Byzantion

Classical Association proceedings

Classical quarterly

Classical review

Dumbarton Oaks papers

Greece & Rome

Harvard studies in classical philology (in Philology section – Basement)

Hermathena

Journal of Hellenic studies

Journal of Roman studies

Medieval studies

Medievalia et humanistica

Medium ævum

Scriptorium

Speculum

Travaux et memoires - Centre de recherche d'histoire et civilisation Byzantines

Viator

Yale classical studies (in Philology section – Basement)

Online resources

Members can log on to the Library Catalogue and access these databases from our eResources – Literature section on the Catalyst homepage

Loeb Classical Library

Digital editions of 520+ titles from the Loeb Classical Library

Oxford Classical Dictionary

An online edition of the printed dictionary

External online resources

List of online resources provided by the Institute of Classical Studies

<https://library.ics.sas.ac.uk/open-access-resources>

The Perseus Digital Library (of resources for studying the ancient world):

www.perseus.tufts.edu/

