

To the Class of '55,

Greetings, my name is Phil Gallagher, and I'm a Classical Studies and Biology double major at Cornell College; due to your extreme generosity, I was able to take a Greek Archaeology class in Greece. I first would like to thank you for this opportunity, and then tell you a little bit about why this trip was such an important and influential life experience for me.

I came to Cornell as Biology and Environmental Science double major, and I had never even been exposed to Classical Studies through my previous education. I took Latin as my foreign language requirement, and played a lead role in a bi-lingual play (Terrence's *The Eunuch*) for my Latin 205 class. After that, I knew Classical Studies was the right career path for me. Since then, I've become fluent in both Latin and Greek, started up a Classical Studies Club (The Olympians) at Cornell, worked for a summer on a Greek textbook with one of the Classics professors, and had many other extraordinary experiences in my time at Cornell

I am currently a teaching assistant in the Classic Studies department at the University of Maryland, and if all goes well, in a few years I will have a doctorate in Classical Studies. As a professor of Classics, I plan to settle down in a little town, and spread the love of the ancient world; hopefully I will be able to provide my future students with similar extraordinary experiences like my trip to Greece. On my trip, I got to see the famous Athens, Delphi, Knossos, and countless other places imbued with rich historical and cultural significance. I got to wander The National Archaeological Museum in Athens, and see countless artifacts which I otherwise could only have read about. My favorite site was definitely the temple of Apollo at Delphi, home of the renowned oracle of Apollo.

I experienced firsthand the culture of the ancient Greeks, and I wouldn't trade that experience for anything. This was an invaluable experience both to my undergraduate education and to my preparation for graduate school, and I just want to thank you once again for donating to this amazing cause.

Sincerely,

Phillip Gallagher

