

LATIN 101:

LATIN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE



Time: MTWThF 11:00 – 11:50 AM

Classroom:



Instructor: Joey Williams
Office: 347 Porter (Ellicott Complex)
E-mail: JLW53@buffalo.edu
Website: UBLearns
Office Hours: TBA

Required Texts:

F. M. Wheelock, *Wheelock's Latin* (revised 6th edition)
ISBN# 0-06-078423-7 (Online for \$7 used)
Groton and Mary, *38 Latin Stories* (5th edition)
ISBN# 0865162891 (Online for \$6 used)

Recommended Texts:

N. Goldman, *English Grammar for Students of Latin* (3rd edition) ISBN# 0-934034-34-6 (Online for \$11 used)
J. Traupman, *Latin and English Dictionary* (3rd edition)
ISBN # 978-1-56765-433-2 (Online for \$2 used)

Course Overview:

This course has a number of objectives. First and foremost, students in this course will build a fundamental understanding of the basic Latin grammar and vocabulary. Students will acquire the skills and experience necessary to read ancient Latin texts as well as be prepared for more advanced concepts presented in the spring semester. In addition, Latin 101 also assists students in gaining a firmer understanding of English grammar and style. Learning Latin also provides a window into the culture, literature, and lives of ancient Romans.

CAVEAT DISCIPVLVS: This is a 5 credit course in which you, the student, are expected to learn an ancient language. This is *not* an easy course, and even excellent students will struggle with the difficulty of the material and the amount of work required. We will cover chapters 1-20 of *Wheelock's Latin* in fifteen weeks. You *must* dedicate regular hours each night to review, memorization, and the completion of assignments. There are no shortcuts to learning Latin. If you have experience with Latin from high school, you may find that you need to review or relearn even basic concepts. Once you become more familiar with Latin, however, you will find that it opens your mind to new ways of approaching language, writing, history, and ideas.

Course Requirements:

Attendance and participation (10% of final grade): This class meets every day of the week and attendance is necessary in order that you:

1. comprehend the material and stay focused on learning Latin
2. receive regular feedback, guidance, review, and practice
3. do not fall behind, which not only negatively impacts you, but also the rest of the class as they must slow down in order for you to catch up.

Everyone in the course begins with 10 Attendance Points. For each unexcused absence you lose one point. Each Attendance Point is worth 1% of your final grade. Your final grade is also influenced by your participation in class. You must come to class prepared and ready to review and discuss the material. Failure to do so will result in a lowered final grade.

Homework (5% of final grade): Homework is an integral and important tool in learning Latin. Do not think of it as a punishment or as a chore, but as a regular exercise that will strengthen your understanding of Latin and help to prepare you for the next day of class. Homework will be assigned in nearly every class, and it will be collected and graded at random in order to check your progress.

Vocabulary Quizzes (15% of final grade): There will be a quiz every Wednesday during the first 10 minutes of class. These short quizzes will test your knowledge of Latin vocabulary from the chapter(s) we have studied in the previous week. Making and using your own flash cards is an excellent way of preparing for these quizzes. Your lowest Vocabulary Quiz score will be dropped at the end of the semester.

Friday Quizzes (25% of final grade): Each Friday we will devote our entire class to a quiz over previous material. You will be expected to demonstrate your understanding of Latin grammar, vocabulary, and usage covered in the previous week. Your lowest Friday Quiz score will be dropped at the end of the semester.

Midterm Exam (20% of final grade): The Midterm Exam is currently scheduled for October 18th. It will test on all of the material covered until that date. The Midterm Exam is not only an opportunity to assess your progress in learning Latin, it is also a way in which you can encounter the material in a new and challenging way.

Final Exam (25% of final grade): The university's final exam schedule will be announced as the end of the semester approaches. Our Final Exam will cover all of the material in Latin 101. Like the Midterm Exam, the Final Exam provides you with the opportunity measure your progress as a student of Latin over the course of the entire semester.

Anyone who schedules a flight or plans to leave before the final exam date forfeits their chance to take the final exam. There are no exceptions. See below for more course policies related to attendance and make-up exams.

Grading Percentages:

Attendance/Participation	10%
Homework	5%
Vocabulary Quizzes	15%
Friday Quizzes	25%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	<u>25%</u>
	100%

Grading Breakdown:

A = 100-93	C+= 79-77
A-= 92-90	C= 76-73
B+= 89-87	C-= 72-70
B= 86-83	D= 69-60
B-= 82-80	F= 59 \geq

Course Policies:

Students must attend class. Absences will be excused only in cases of severe illness, religious or civil obligation, or extreme hardship. All excused absences must be confirmed with official documentation. If you are unable to attend an exam or quiz for any reason, you **must** notify your instructor within 24 hours. If you do not notify and do not provide appropriate official documentation explaining your absence, you will not be allowed to make up the exam or quiz. Exceptions are only made for emergencies. Absences for avoidable circumstances will not be excused. These include but are not limited to sleeping in, non-emergency appointments, getting lost, vacations or trips (make certain you schedule any plane tickets for **after** the final exam).

Students are expected to abide by the university's code of academic integrity. University policies on cheating and plagiarism are strictly enforced. If you are caught cheating during an exam or plagiarizing an assignment, you will receive a failing grade in the course and be subject to disciplinary action from the office of the dean of students.

By remaining enrolled in this class you are accepting the terms and requirements of this syllabus. The instructor reserves the right to alter this syllabus as circumstances require.



Schedule of Classes:

- Week 1:** Introduction and Wheelock chapter 1. Quiz #1 (9/3).
- Week 2:** *No classes Mon., Sept. 6 and Thurs., Sept. 9.* Wheelock chapter 2. Vocab. Quiz #1 (9/8) and Quiz #2 (9/10).
- Week 3:** *No classes Fri., Sept. 17.* Wheelock chapters 3 and 4. Vocab. Quiz #2 (9/15) and Quiz #3 (due 9/20).
- Week 4:** Wheelock chapter 5. Vocab. Quiz #3 (9/22) and Quiz #4 (9/24).
- Week 5:** Wheelock chapters 6 and 7. Vocab. Quiz #4 (9/29) and Quiz #5 (10/1).
- Week 6:** Wheelock chapter 8. Vocab. Quiz #5 (10/6) and Quiz #6 (10/8).
- Week 7:** Wheelock chapters 9 and 10. Vocab. Quiz #6 (10/13) and Quiz #7 (10/15).
- Week 8:** **Midterm** (10/18). Wheelock chapter 11. Vocab. Quiz #7 (10/20) and Quiz #7 (10/22).
- Week 9:** Wheelock chapter 12. Vocab. Quiz #8 (10/27) and Quiz #8 (10/29).
- Week 10:** Wheelock chapter 13. Vocab. Quiz #9 (11/3) and Quiz #9 (11/5).
- Week 11:** Wheelock chapters 14 and 15. Vocab. Quiz #10 (11/10) and Quiz #10 (11/12).
- Week 12:** Wheelock chapter 16. Vocab. Quiz #11 (11/17) and Quiz #11 (11/19).
- Week 13:** *No classes Wed., Nov. 24 through Fri., Nov. 26* Wheelock chapter 17. Quiz #12 (due 11/29)
- Week 14:** Wheelock chapters 17 (continued) and 18. Vocab. Quiz #12 (12/1) and Quiz #13 (12/3).
- Week 15:** Wheelock chapters 19 and 20. Vocab. Quiz #13 (12/8) and Quiz #14 (12/10).