Latin 14: Intensive Elementary Latin

May 16 - June 27, 2002
Mon - Fri, 9:00-12:00
234 Allen Building

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OVERVIEW

Latin 14 is designed to provide a rapid and rigorous introduction to the Latin language, condensing the material covered in Latin 1 and 2 into one 6-week period. We will work our way through a text specifically designed for such a course, learning the fundamentals and finer points of Latin grammar, syntax, vocabulary, and prose style. Ideally, by the end of the session, you will be able to read and comprehend Latin texts at the intermediate level.

REQUIREMENTS

The course text is Moreland & Fleischer, Latin: an Intensive Course. You will need no other books (i.e., skip the dictionary), but a hearty stack of index cards is a must.

The work for the course will consist of daily reading and written assignments from the text. In addition, I strongly recommend that you make and use flash cards to facilitate learning vocabulary (though this is not a strict requirement, and I will not ask you to hand them in). I expect you to spend a minimum of 2.5-3 hours per night completing assignments, reviewing old material, and practicing vocabulary.

In class, we will review assignments, take tests/quizzes (see below), discuss new material, and address any problems you may have. *It is imperative that you ask a question when you have one.* The course will move very quickly, and anything left unclear at an early stage will become a major handicap later on. So speak up!

GRADING

Your grade will be based on four components:

♦ Class participation/homework (35%): This means, essentially, how well prepared you are for class, how much of the nightly assignments you complete, and how willing you are to play the role of the eager, aspiring Latin student. As long as you do what I ask of you and work as hard as you can, you won’t need to worry about this.

♦ Quizzes (25%): I will not be collecting/manually correcting homework, but will use regular (approximately 2-3 times per week) quizzes to evaluate your progress. These quizzes will cover vocabulary, grammar, translation, etc., and will (generally) be announced the night before.

♦ Midterm (15%): You will have a midterm exam (1 hour) in class on either
Wednesday, June 5 or Thursday, June 6. (I haven't decided yet.)

♦ Final (25%): You will have a final exam (2-3 hours) at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 27.

OTHER INFO

I expect you to come to class every day. However, I understand that the unexpected can sometimes occur, and will not penalize you for one or (at most) two absences - missing class (and having to catch up) will be punishment enough. More than two absences will be problematic.

I am always happy to entertain your questions and complaints immediately before, during, and immediately after class. If you need additional assistance, let me know ASAP. Most weekdays, I will be on campus all day (from 9-6, or so), and readily available either in the Classics Department or the Papyrology Room of Perkins Library (room 344D). For getting my immediate attention, personal contact or email works best. The department’s grad student office is #016 Social Sciences, but I would be happy (and would prefer) to meet with you wherever is most convenient.

SCHEDULE

I have not provided a rigid set of assignments and dates for Latin 14, since in an introductory course, such things are subject to change on a daily basis. Nevertheless, what follows is a general outline of what to expect, and when:

WEEK 1 (May 16, 17): Introduction; grammar review; Unit 1
WEEK 2 (May 20-24): Units 1-4
WEEK 3 (May 27-31): Units 5-8
WEEK 4 (June 3-7): Unit 9; review (Units 1-9); midterm (over Units 1-9); Unit 10
WEEK 5 (June 10-14): Units 11-14
WEEK 6 (June 17-21): Units 15-18
WEEK 7 (June 24): general review

There is a reading day on June 25; class will not meet. Exams start on Wednesday the 26th; our final is on Thursday the 27th. I will be happy to hold a review session before the final exam if necessary.