Latin 15: Intensive Intermediate Latin

July 1 - August 9, 2002
Mon - Fri, 9:00-12:00
318 Allen Building

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OVERVIEW

Latin 15 is designed to provide students having a solid knowledge of Latin grammar, syntax, and vocabulary with a rigorous sequence of readings in classical Latin poetry and prose. The course condenses the material covered in two semesters at the intermediate level (Latin 63, etc.) into one 6-week period. We will work our way through editions of four ancient texts (generally - or hopefully - provided with ample grammar, syntax, and vocabulary notes), reviewing grammar and the like along the way. By the end of the session, you will be able to read and comprehend Latin poetry and prose at an advanced level (so as to be able to take 100-level courses in the language).

REQUIREMENTS/PREREQUISITES

Latin 1 and 2, Latin 14, or the equivalent are prerequisites. This is NOT a beginning Latin course.

There are four required texts:


I ask that you use these specific editions, as modern editions of ancient texts can differ widely based upon the whims of modern editors. The books have been ordered through Duke's textbook store, and are also available elsewhere (amazon.com, for example - though delivery times for off-campus sources may prove too slow). If, however, we/you are unable to obtain one of the above texts in time, alternates will be selected at the discretion of the instructor.

You will also need English translations of the above texts. We will be skipping around in the Latin a great deal, but will need to be familiar with what transpires in the passages we omit in order to better understand the passages we read in the original. I have neglected to order specific translations for each text, as they are readily available at Perkins Library or any decent bookstore.

In addition, I have ordered *Moreland & Fleischer, Latin: an Intensive Course* as a handbook for grammar and syntax, as well as the *Chambers-Murray Latin-English Dictionary*. You do not need to purchase these texts, but some sort of handbook on grammar is highly recommended, and a dictionary is a must.

The work for the course will consist of daily reading assignments from the various course texts (in Latin), as well as supplemental readings (in English translation). I expect you to spend approximately **3-4 hours per night** completing assignments and reviewing old material.
In class, we will review assignments, take tests/quizzes (see below), discuss issues raised by the text(s), 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 may become a hassle later on. So speak up!

**GRADING**

Your grade will be based on three components:

- **Class participation/homework (50%)**: This means, essentially, how well prepared you are for class, how much of the nightly assignments you complete (and *how well* you complete what you *do* complete), and how effectively you maintain enthusiasm for the course - or at least a facade of such. 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 (10%)**: I will not be collecting or manually correcting homework, but will use regular (approximately 1-2 times per week) quizzes to evaluate your progress. These quizzes will cover vocabulary, grammar, translation, etc., and will (generally) be announced the night before.

- **Hour Exams (40%)**: You will have an hour exam on each author we read, meaning a test every 1.5 weeks, or so. These exams will focus primarily on translating selections from the text(s) that we have covered in class, but will also feature questions on the grammar and syntax employed in these selections. Other sorts of questions - on the historical period under discussion or events in the narrative - are likely, but will only cover material that has been assigned or discussed in class.

**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 absences. Missing class (and having to catch up) will be punishment enough. More than two absences will be problematic for you.

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 8-6, or so), and readily available either in the Classics Department (second floor Allen Building) or the Papyrology Room of Perkins Library (room 344D). For getting my immediate attention, personal contact or email works best.

**SCHEDULE**

I have not provided a rigid set of dates and assignments for Latin 15, since things will be subject to change on a daily basis, depending upon how much ground we are able to cover. Nevertheless, what follows is a general outline of what to expect, and when:

**WEEK 1** (July 1-5): Introduction; Caesar, *BC/BA*.

**WEEK 2** (July 8-12): Caesar, *BC/BA*; Caesar exam (July 10); Virgil, *Aeneid*.


**WEEK 4** (July 22-26): Virgil exam (July 22); Cicero, *PA*.

**WEEK 5** (July 29-August 2): Cicero, *PA*; Cicero exam (July 31); Catullus, *Carmina*.

**WEEK 6** (August 5-9): Catullus, *Carmina*; Catullus exam (August 9, 9:00 a.m.).

There is a reading day on August 8, but since there is no final exam to study for, class will meet. *Please note that class will also meet on July 4 and 5.*