

First-Year Latin I

LAT 506 • Unique #32740
Spring 2015

Instructor: **Rebecca Richards**

Time / Place: **MTWTF 1-2, WAG 10**

Office Hours: **Tu 12-1, Wed 12-1, Fri 2-3, or by appointment**

Office: **WAG 121**

Email: **r.richards@utexas.edu**

Course Website: **available on Canvas**

Course Texts

- F.M. Wheelock, *Wheelock's Latin*, 7th ed. Harper Collins, 2011. ISBN: 978-006-1997228
- A.H. Groton and J.M. May, *38 Latin Stories*. Bolchazy-Carducci, 2003. ISBN: 978-0865162891

You are required as part of your participation grade to bring these texts to class every day.

Course Description

This course is the first half of an introduction to Latin morphology, syntax, and vocabulary. We will complete the first twenty-five chapters of *Wheelock's Latin* and use a variety of translation assignments, morphology and syntax quizzes, and classroom activities to guide your instruction in Latin grammar. All of these exercises will help you to develop the tools necessary to translate Classical Latin texts.

Course Prerequisite: None.

Note: a grade of C or better is required to continue to LAT 507 (the second half of Beginning Latin). After satisfactorily completing both LAT 506 and 507, you will be able to take LAT 311 where you will read real, unmodified Latin.

Course Goals

Upon completion of the course, you will be able to

- define basic Latin **vocabulary** (approx. 1000 words)
- reproduce **paradigms** of basic Latin forms
- identify the **grammatical** forms of Latin words
- identify the **syntactical** functions of Latin words
- **translate** basic Latin sentences and **explain their syntax**

To succeed in this class, you will need to complete the daily assignments, actively and consistently participate in class, be willing to spend about two hours of study time for every hour in class, and take responsibility for keeping up and on track. We move fast in this class; you cannot expect to do well if you do not come to class or complete the work.

But there's good news! Apart from the intrinsic joy experienced by identifying an ablative absolute or nasal infix and speaking a language over two thousand years old, learning Latin will also translate into other skills unrelated to this course. Over 60% of English vocabulary is derived from Greek and Latin roots, and this percentage increases to 90% for scientific and technological fields. Accordingly, knowing

Latin vocabulary will naturally increase your English vocabulary and help you to diagnose words' meanings based on their roots. You will also get a taste for Roman culture and thought, and we will often explore how the Classical world has influenced our own modern ideas, language, and society. Put simply, we are NOT learning a dead language. *Lingua latina vivit! Et semper vivat!*

Note: if you are interested in learning more about the benefits of Latin, see the handout I will post on Canvas ("Benefits of Learning Latin").

Assignments, Grading, Exams

Your grade for this class is based on the following:

- In-class participation, attendance, and homework (10%)
- Quiz scores (15%)
- Three midterm exams (50%):

15% **Feb. 13** (ch. 1-7)

15% **Mar. 12** (ch. 1-14)

20% **Apr. 17** (ch. 1-22)

- Cumulative final exam (25%): **May 19, 9-12:00** (ch. 1-25)

Grading scale: A: 100-93; A-: 92-90; B+: 89-87; B: 86-83; B-: 82-80; C+: 79-77; C: 76-73; C-: 72-70; D+: 69-67; D: 66-63; F: below 63.

Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit Option: A student may choose to take the course as Pass/Fail (undergrads only) or Credit/No Credit (grads only). To receive a pass, a final grade of D- or better is required. To receive credit, a final grade of C or better is required.

(Note: you may not enroll in pass/fail and continue to LAT 507, regardless of what grade you end up receiving.)

Attendance, Homework, Participation (10% of final grade)

Attendance and preparation of your homework are crucial to your success in this class. Translation: **if you want to pass LAT 506 and/or do well in LAT 507, do not miss class and do not skimp on your homework preparation.**

Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. You will be allowed THREE unexcused absences, after which your final grade will drop one percentage point per unexcused absence. Absences will be excused only for religious holidays (see below), medical reasons (with a letter from Student Health Services or a private physician), or for family emergencies (only when certified by your Dean of Students). If students wish to have an absence excused, they must provide documentation to the instructor within a week of their return to class.

I will not be collecting **homework** on a day-to-day basis, but we will be going over it during class. Failure to prepare adequately for class will severely inhibit your ability to improve your Latin reading skills and will prevent you from an appropriate level of participation in class discussions. As such, days on which you do not prepare your homework in advance of class—particularly when this becomes a chronic problem—are tantamount to absences and **I therefore reserve the right to dock your attendance and participation grade when you have failed to prepare for class.** Also, if I see that there is consistent,

insufficient preparation from the class as a whole, I reserve the right to change my homework policy and require that you turn in written assignments.

*****Important note: using an on-line Wheelock translation instead of preparing your own translation is equivalent to cheating. See below (“Academic Dishonesty”) for more information.*****

To receive credit for **participation**, I expect the following:

- You have prepared the assigned homework BEFORE coming to class.
- You are present with all of the required course materials.
- You volunteer to translate, translate willingly when called upon, respond to questions posed by the instructor or other students, and participate in the general class discussion or group activities.
- You are on time and do not leave early (see below, “Note about tardies”).
- You show respect to your classmates (see the attached sheet you need to sign and return to class **by Friday**).
- You do not cause disruptions to the class environment, including those created by electronic devices (see below, “Electronic Policies”).

Note about tardies: Coming on time to class is very important, both for your own success in the course and to avoid disrupting class. Thus, every THREE tardies will count as one unexcused absence. Leaving class early without prior notification will also result in a tardy on your attendance record. If you foresee any issues with arriving on time or leaving early, please notify me in advance. When you are tardy (because yes, it is going to happen at least once to all of us), please enter the classroom and find a seat as quietly as possible.

Quizzes (15% of final grade)

There will be regularly scheduled quizzes throughout the semester, as marked on the attached schedule.

Quizzes will always be held at the beginning of class. Regardless of whether you miss a quiz because you are late or absent, there will be **NO make-up quizzes** offered. However, because I understand that things come up, I will **drop the lowest THREE quiz scores** from the calculation of your final grade.

The quizzes will generally contain three sections: Morphology (paradigms for you to fill in testing your knowledge of verb, noun, and adjective forms), Syntax (short answer questions testing your knowledge of Latin grammar), and Vocabulary. These quizzes may also have a translation component.

Exams (75% of final grade)

The exams will assess your knowledge of vocabulary, morphology, and syntax, and test your ability to apply that knowledge in translation. Each exam will have a section of morphology, a section testing your knowledge of syntax and translation in *seen* passages, and one *unseen* translation passage. As exam dates get closer, I will post a sample exam on the course website.

Students will only be allowed to make up exams in the case of a **demonstrated medical reason** (physician’s statement required) or other **unavoidable** emergency (as certified by the Dean of Students in the student’s college). Examples of unacceptable excuses: family trips, oversleeping, laziness, tardiness, hangovers, etc. **The final exam must be taken at the appointed time:** no make-ups or early takers will be allowed.

What do I do if I feel like I am falling behind?

Contact me. Immediately. This course moves fast and is cumulative. If there is anything you do not understand, come to office hours, email me, see me after class, work with another classmate, etc. Do not let it sit. Paradigms will not memorize themselves nor syntax untangle itself.

This is also a **warning**. This course moves fast, and you have to take active responsibility for the material. Be prepared to spend, on average, TWO HOURS outside of class for every hour in class. Even when there is not an assignment you are expected to turn in, you must still be going over the material, and memorizing vocabulary and paradigms. Think of Latin as your *novus optimus amicus*.

Course Policies

Electronic Devices

Electronic devices (laptops, cell phones, tablets, etc.) are **NOT** allowed in this class. **Cell phones need to be silenced and in your bag during class.** If I see you texting, checking updates, or using your phone in any way during class, **you will automatically lose your participation points for the day.** You will only have ONE warning for the entire semester, so don't risk it. If you are expecting an important phone call or for some other valid reason need to use an electronic device, please let me know ahead of class and we can make arrangements.

Email Policy

Email is recognized as an official mode of university correspondence; therefore, it is your responsibility to keep the University informed as to changes in your email address. You are also expected to check email on a frequent and regular basis in order to stay current with University- and course-related communications, recognizing that some emails may be time-critical. It is recommended that email be checked daily, but at a minimum, twice per week.

Remember to set your Canvas conversation and announcement notifications to ASAP. Please be aware that **you will be held responsible for whatever information/deadlines I include in emails regardless of whether you read them or not.** I will reply to all emails within 1-2 business days.

University Policies

The instructor abides by all policies described in the university's General Information Bulletin, including, but not limited to those listed below. To examine the University's General Information Bulletin, go to: <http://registrar.utexas.edu/docs/catalogs/gi/ut-catalog-gi-11-12.pdf>.

University of Texas Honor Code: The core values of The University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the university is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community.

Academic Dishonesty: Collaboration during tests, use of written notes during tests, or submission of work that is not entirely a student's own will not be tolerated. Any student found guilty of cheating or facilitating cheating in any way will receive no credit on the assignment/test and will be subject to the University procedures under Appendix C, Section 11 of the General Information bulletin. I reserve the right to reexamine any student whom I strongly suspect of cheating or facilitating cheating at any time.

It is your responsibility to be familiar with the university's definition of cheating and to avoid any behavior that might be interpreted as academic dishonesty. (See <http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/> or www.lib.utexas.edu/services/instruction/learningmodules/plagiarism/ for more information.)

*****Note: copying another students' translation and/or getting a translation off of the internet is also considered cheating and will be subject to discipline.** If I catch you cheating in this way, I *will* submit your name to Student Judicial Services.***

Students with Disabilities: The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. To receive your accommodations for this course, please submit to the instructor a letter from the SSD office stating your needs by the second week of classes. I can only provide accommodations in response to a letter from SSD, and only the accommodations that are specified by SSD. For more information, contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD): 512-471-6259. Also, <http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/>.

Religious Holidays: Please inform me at least 14 days in advance if you observe any religious holiday during the semester that will require your absence from class. Your needs will be accommodated.

Add/Drop Policy: Please familiarize yourself with the university's official drop/add policy. Any requests to drop this course after the fourth week will be handled according to these rules. Be forewarned: while you may use a "one time exception" to late-drop the course, the exception is to the deadline, not to the requirement that you must be earning at least a 70% in order to receive a Q-drop.

Important deadlines:

- January 23: last day of the official add/drop period
- February 4: last day an undergraduate student may add a class except for rare and extenuating circumstances; last day to drop a class for a possible refund
- March 30: last day an undergraduate may, with the dean's approval, withdraw from the University or drop a class except for urgent and substantiated, nonacademic reasons; last day an undergraduate student may change registration in a class to or from the pass/fail basis

***Final note: the University of Texas has numerous resources for students to provide assistance and support for your learning. Here are just a few:**

- Sanger Learning and Career Center: <http://lifelearning.utexas.edu/>
- Undergraduate Writing Center: <http://uwc.utexas.edu/>
- Counseling & Mental Health Center: <http://cmhc.utexas.edu/>
- Career Exploration Center: <http://www.utexas.edu/student/careercenter/>
- Student Emergency Services: <http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/emergency/>

[This is a course that meets five days a week with a lot of material to cover. Accordingly, this syllabus is subject to change at my discretion with verbal or written notification. That is one reason why coming to class daily and/or checking your email are vital if you wish to succeed.]

LAT 506 Course Schedule – Spring 2015

Note: This schedule is subject to change (and very likely will) with verbal notice given in class.

L2E = Latin-to-English Sent. (*Sententiae*) **Act.** = Activity (English-to-Latin/Worksheet/38 Latin Stories, etc.)

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Wk 1 (Jan. 19-23)	MLK Day (No Class)	Syllabus & Intro to Latin	Ch 1. Intro	Ch. 1 L2E, Act.	Quiz 1 , Ch. 2 Intro, Act.
Wk 2 (Jan. 26-30)	Ch 2. L2E	Quiz 2 , Ch. 3 Intro	Ch. 3 L2E	Ch. 4 Intro, Act.	Ch. 4 L2E
Wk 3 (Feb. 2-6)	Quiz 3 , Ch. 5 Intro	Ch. 5 L2E	Ch. 6 Intro, Act.	Ch. 6 L2E	Quiz 4 , Review Act.
Wk 4 (Feb. 9-13)	Ch. 7 Intro	Ch. 7 L2E	Quiz 5 , Ch. 7 Act.	Review	EXAM 1 (ch. 1-7)
Wk 5 (Feb. 16-20)	Ch. 8 Intro	Ch. 8 L2E	Quiz 6 , Ch. 9 Intro	Ch. 9 L2E	Ch. 9 Act.
Wk 6 (Feb. 23-27)	Quiz 7 , Ch. 10 Intro	Ch. 10 L2E	Ch. 11 Intro, Act.	Ch. 11 L2E	Quiz 8 , Special sight reading act.
Wk 7 (Mar. 2-6)	Ch. 12 Intro	Ch. 12 L2E	Quiz 9 , Ch. 13 Intro	Ch. 13 L2E	Ch. 14 Intro
Wk 8 (Mar. 9-13)	Ch. 14 L2E	Quiz 10 , Act.	Catch-up and Review	EXAM 2 (ch. 1-14)	Ch. 15 Intro
Spring Break (Mar. 16-20)	NO CLASS - SPRING BREAK				
Wk 9 (Mar. 23-27)	Ch. 15 L2E; Ch. 16 Intro	Ch. 16 L2E	Quiz 11 , Ch. 17 Intro	Ch. 17 L2E	Ch. 17 Act.
Wk 10 (Mar.30-Apr.3)	Quiz 12 , Ch. 18 Intro	Ch. 18 L2E	Ch. 19 Intro, Act.	Ch. 19 L2E	Act. on passives
Wk 11 (Apr. 6-10)	Quiz 13 , Ch. 20 Intro, Act.	Ch. 20 L2E	Ch. 21 Intro, Act.	Ch. 21 L2E	Quiz 14 , Act.
Wk 12 (Apr. 13-17)	Ch. 22 Intro, Act.	Ch. 22 L2E	Quiz 15 , Act.	Review	EXAM 3 (ch. 1-22)
Wk 13 (Apr. 20-24)	Ch. 23 Intro	Ch. 23 L2E	Ch. 23 Act.	Quiz 16 , Act.	Special sight reading act.
Wk 14 (Apr.27-May 1)	Ch. 24 Intro	Ch. 24 L2E	Ch. 24 Act.	Quiz 17 , Act.	Ch. 25 Intro
Wk 15 (May 4-8)	Ch. 25 L2E	Ch. 25 Act.	Quiz 18 , Catch- up	Catch-up and Review	Catch-up and Review

FINAL EXAM: Tuesday, May 19, 9-12 (all students must take the final at the appointed time)

Please sign and return this back page by Friday (1/23/2015) at the latest.

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By signing below, I acknowledge that **I have read the syllabus for LAT 506**. I understand and agree to be bound by all the rules, guidelines, and due dates it contains.

I also agree to be respectful to my classmates:

- I will raise my hand if I have a question or comment.
- I will not disrupt class by chatting with my neighbor.
- I will never pack up early before class is over.
- My cell phone will be silent and out of sight during class.
- I will treat my classmates with respect by not making rude gestures or disparaging remarks.

The instructor (Rebecca Richards) reserves the right to ask me to leave if I fail to obey any of these rules of classroom etiquette.

I have read and agree to abide by these policies.

_____ (print your name and EID)

_____ (sign your name)

_____ (date)