OLA11: Latin I

Course Description
Latin I introduces students to the language that defined Roman civilization and continues leave its mark on most western languages and cultures. The history of the Latin language did not end when the Roman Empire disintegrated and the vernacular languages of Europe eclipsed Latin as a spoken language. Latin continued as a written *lingua franca* in Europe until the 19th century and its influence continues to be felt today in many modern languages, including English. In this course, students will learn the foundations of Latin grammar by reading adapted masterpieces of Roman literature presented in *Latin for the New Millenium*, an innovative textbook that combines an intensive study of grammar with new methods of inductive language learning. Roman history and culture are seamlessly integrated into each week’s reading, supplemented by material from *Daily Life in the Roman City*, by Gregory Aldrete. By studying an ancient language and culture, students will be better able to understand their own language and gain a new perspective on the modern world. Assessments include classroom participation and frequent quizzes as well as longer exams and individual projects.

Course Objectives
In this course students will acquire a firm grasp of basic Latin grammar, syntax, and vocabulary, as well as a deeper understanding of English syntax and semantics. They will be able to read and comprehend adapted Latin passages appropriate for language learners of this level at sight, and confidently use grammatical terminology to identify linguistic structures and forms. Moreover, they will strengthen their understanding of English vocabulary and the shared vocabulary of the Romance languages through Latin derivatives and develop wider conceptual understanding of how languages work in general. The course will also train students as historians, anthropologists, and students of literature. Through lectures, research projects, and translation assignments, students will encounter Roman culture and history and be able to contextualize the literature they are reading and translating.

In many ways, the hardest and most important learning objective this year will be self-discipline. Latin demands slowness, exactness, and a lot of time sitting at a desk. Students will be expected to spend every day making sense of words, looking up words, and memorizing words. It is only through slow and deliberate daily contact with Latin that the language can be mastered and appreciated.

Required Texts

*Latin for the New Millenium: Level 1*,
by Milena Minkova and Terence Tunberg.

*Latin for the New Millenium: Level 1 Workbook*,
by Milena Minkova and Terence Tunberg.

*Daily Life in the Roman City: Rome, Pompeii, and Ostia*,
by Gregory Aldrete.
University of Oklahoma Press, 2009

*Collins Latin Concise Dictionary*.

by Norma Goldman.
Students are also required to purchase a set of small blank flashcards for vocabulary study.

**Grammar Covered**

This course uses *Latin for the New Millenium* and covers all the grammar presented in Level I of that textbook series.

**Forms:**
- **Nouns:** all five declensions in all six cases
- **Verbs:** for all four conjugations and the verbs *sum* and *possunt*, all six tenses of the active and passive indicative; the imperative mood; the present, perfect, and future active and passive infinitives
- **Adjectives:** the positive degree of 1st/2nd declension and 3rd declension adjectives
- **Pronouns:** the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd personal pronoun, the relative pronoun, the interrogative pronoun and adjective, the possessive adjective, the demonstrative pronouns *hic* and *ille*.
- **Prepositions:** prepositions with the ablative and the accusative
- **Irregular noun vīs**

**Grammar/Syntax:**
- **Case usage:** the nominative subject and predicative nominative; the accusative direct object, the accusative subject of indirect statement; the dative indirect object and the dative of possession; the genitive of possession, the partitive genitive (genitive of the whole), and the objective genitive; the ablative genitive, place from which, place where, time when
- **Clauses:** indirect statement with subject accusative and infinitive in both the active and passive; relative clauses; future more vivid conditions.

**Weekly Schedule**

The following schedule is a sample of the work and the class meeting times students commit to each week.

**Week 8, October 15 – October 19:**
This week we learn the verbs *sum* and *possunt*, review transitive and intransitive verbs, and introduce substantive adjectives.

**Dies Lunae, October 15**
- Discussion 8-1, 8:30 am or 6:30 pm PST
  - Read “De Druidibus,” adapted from Julius Caesar's *dē Bellō Gallicō*
  - Introduce the verb *sum*
  - Review the Roman house and the purpose of its different rooms
  - Midterm scheduling
- Homework (due by the next discussion; i.e., Tuesday at 8:30 am or 6:30 pm)
  - Make vocabulary cards for the Vocabulary to Learn on page 85
  - Vocabulary card check: take a photo of all your vocabulary cards that you have made this year and post your picture to Edmodo.

**Dies Martis, October 16**
- Discussion 8-2, 8:30 am or 6:30 pm PST
  - Review forms of *sum*
• Introduce the present tense of *possum*
• Exercise 3 and 4
• Introduce substantive adjectives
• Homework (due by the next discussion; i.e., Thursday at 8:30 am or 6:30 pm. Submit this homework to the eCollege dropbox and be prepared to answer questions in class!)
  • Translate the story of Phaethon.

**Dies Mercurii, October 17**
• Office Hour, 8:30 am or 6:30 pm PST
  • Remember that office hours are optional!
  • We will practice the concepts and forms that we learned this week.

**Dies Iovis, October 18**
• Discussion 8-3, 8:30 am or 6:30 pm
  • Review transitive vs. intransitive verbs
  • Exercise 5, 6, 7
  • Ludi cum Inscriptionibus

**Dies Veneris, October 12**
• Latin club meeting at 12:00 pm
• Homework (due Monday, October 15th before class discussion)
  • Take quiz 6 on Quia.com. Quiz 6 covers the present tense forms of *sum* and *possum*, substantive adjectives, and transitive and intransitive verbs, as well as the Vocabulary to Learn for chapter 6
  • Watch the lecture on Roman religion
  • Culture Challenge