
LATIN

In the Department of Classics

The Classics Department offers courses listed in this catalogue under “Ancient History,” “Classics,” “Greek,” and “Latin.”

Course Offerings

LT111f Introductory Latin Latin was the language of Virgil, Ovid, Cicero, and Tacitus, giants in the Western literary tradition, and, for centuries Latin remained the lingua franca of the educated. It also gave rise to the Romance languages and to a vast proportion of English vocabulary. Combines lucid explanations of grammar with cultural information and readings in simplified Latin of major classical texts. *Four credit hours.* BARRETT

LT112s Intermediate Latin The history, literature, and culture of the Western tradition can be traced through Rome, and many of the great ideas and texts of the ancient and premodern world were formulated in Latin. Builds on the foundations laid in Latin 111. Learning goals include continuing the assimilation of Latin grammar and syntax, equipping students with the tools to read Rome's greatest authors in their original tongue, and fostering greater familiarity with broader Roman culture. *Prerequisite:* Latin 111. *Four credit hours.* BARRETT

LT131f Introduction to Latin Literature Having mastered Latin grammar and syntax, students now take on the challenges and rewards of reading an unsimplified Latin text. They will learn to translate most Latin texts with the aid of a dictionary; to accomplish a literary, historical, and cultural analysis of any complex text; and to satisfy the rigorous requirements of a demanding work schedule. *Prerequisite:* Latin 112, or appropriate score on the College Board Latin SAT Subject Test, AP Latin exam, or placement test administered during new student orientation. *Four credit hours.* L. CURRIE

[LT232] Catullus and Tibullus: Love and Revolution Explores the role of Latin love poetry in the cultural revolution that accompanied the bloody death of the Republic and the rise of the Imperial princeps. Catullus, the originator of Latin love poetry grew up in the shadow of Spartacus' slave revolt and rebellions across the Roman world. Tibullus and Propertius established the genre of love elegy against the backdrop of a wave of failed uprisings and violent power struggles. The revolution that brought the emperor Augustus to power soon metamorphosed into an autocratic empire incompatible with the ideals of love elegy, which Ovid abandoned when he was sent into exile. Students will develop digital humanities skills by creating web-based commentaries of assigned poems. *Prerequisite:* Latin 131, or appropriate score on the College Board Latin SAT Subject Test, AP Latin exam, or a higher level Latin course. *Four credit hours.* L.

[LT251] Ovid: *Metamorphoses* Ovid's masterpiece tells nearly all of the stories from Greek and Roman myth through the lens of transformation, or metamorphosis. Nothing is stable, it turns out, not even what you thought myth was for. This brilliantly funny and provocative poem is always engaging—one of the reasons it came to be among the most influential works of antiquity. *Prerequisite:* Latin 131 or higher-level course. *Four credit hours.* L.

[LT254] Petronius, *The Satyricon* Written during the reign of Nero, Petronius' *Satyricon* is the wildest and most irreverent of ancient novels: this kaleidoscope of literary forms digests everything from Homer and Plato to Roman satire, all while situating its subject at the intersection of highbrow and lowbrow and offering a bottom-up view of imperial Roman society. This course prioritizes the study of the linguistic and literary qualities of the *Satyricon*, while carefully locating these qualities in their cultural and historical contexts. *Prerequisite:* Latin 131 or equivalent. *Four credit hours.* L.

LT297f The Dead Speak: Latin Epigraphy and Beyond Epigraphy, or the study of inscriptions, provides unique evidence about the ancient world. In this course, we will learn to read and interpret Roman inscriptions and evaluate them as sources for studying ancient language, society, law, and religion. While we will predominantly work with funerary epitaphs - inscriptions written on monuments for the dead - we will also discuss inscriptions found in a variety of other contexts. Epigraphy's connections to other disciplines, including philology, history, anthropology, and archaeology, will also be considered. *Prerequisite:* Latin 131 or equivalent. *Four credit hours.* L. CURRIE

[LT362] Lovers, Exiles, and Shepherds: Virgil's *Eclogues* *The Eclogues* have exerted a tremendous influence on later poets across Europe and the Americas. Virgil's bucolic poetry draws on ancient learning, contemporary politics, and his own artistic sensibility. *Prerequisite:* Latin 131 or higher-level course. *Four credit hours.* L.

[LT364] Livy: Early Rome A wide-ranging history of Rome, Livy's monumental *Ab Urbe Condita* begins with myth: the fall of Troy, Aeneas' arrival in Italy, Romulus and Remus, Hercules, and the Sabine Women. As we read Livy's account, we will study early Roman history and historiography, considering literary, historical, and archaeological evidence. *Prerequisite:* Latin 131 or equivalent. *Four credit hours.*

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LT398s Claudius in Biography and Satire Suetonius' biographical *Life of Claudius* and Seneca's satirical *Apocolocyntosis* ("The Pumpkinification of Claudius") present two different portraits of this enigmatic Roman emperor. In this course, we will read selections in Latin from both sources, as well as a number of other primary sources in translation, to better understand this paradoxical figure. Our general studies of the biographical and satirical traditions will let us interpret the evidence supplied by these sources, and the evidence will be compared to what is found in other historiographical and epigraphical accounts. *Prerequisite:* Latin 131 or equivalent. *Four credit hours.*

L. CURRIE