LATIN

In the Department of Classics

The Classics Department offers courses listed in this catalogue under “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. TAYLOR

[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.

LT257f Plautus Captivi  We will read Plautus' play Captivi from start to finish in the original Latin, focusing on grammatical, stylistic, and historical concerns. While Captivi is a comedy, it addresses serious themes such as freedom, enslavement, and the human consequences of war. We will explore these themes not only by closely reading Plautus' text, but also by examining other textual and material evidence from antiquity and, ultimately, performing our own translations of chosen scenes. Prerequisite: Latin 131 or equivalent.  Four credit hours.  L. MILLER

LT343s Environmental Writing in Latin Literature  The interventions made by the ancient Romans in the environments that they inhabited and invaded were unprecedented in terms of both scale and intensity. Such interventions ranged from the redistribution of water by aqueducts to the large-scale deforestation and pollution, whose scars on the landscapes of the Mediterranean are still visible. In this course, we will be reading in their original Latin a variety of authors (e.g. Varro, Virgil, Ovid, Pliny the Elder) whose works articulate the complex responses elicited by this “conquest” of the natural world, ranging from nostalgia for agricultural life to the praise of technological marvels. Prerequisite: Latin 131 or equivalent.  Four credit hours.  L. TAYLOR

[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.