

# LATI 103: Introduction to Latin

1/2008 – Classics, Greek, & Latin

School of Art History, Classics, and Religious Studies — Victoria University of Wellington

## Course organisation

### Lecturers/tutors

- Dr Peter Gainsford (course organiser) — OK 525, ph. 463 6453, [peter.gainsford@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:peter.gainsford@vuw.ac.nz)
- James McNamara — OK 519, ph. 463 8044, [jdmcnamara@gmail.com](mailto:jdmcnamara@gmail.com)

### Classes

- 13.10-14.00 on Mon./Tue./Thu./Fri.

Because of the unusual size of the class this year, the course will be divided into two groups for at least **the first three weeks**:

- EA 004 — with James McNamara
- Mon. EA 206, Tue./Thu./Fri. HM 002 — with Peter Gainsford

### Notices

Any additional information or information will be announced in class and posted on the noticeboards on the 5th floor of Old Kirk.

## Set texts

### Required

- M. Balme and J. Morwood (eds.), 1996, *Oxford Latin Course: Part I*, 2nd edition (Oxford University Press: Oxford)
- M. Balme and J. Morwood (eds.), 1996, *Oxford Latin Course: Part II*, 2nd edition (Oxford University Press: Oxford)

(Parts II and III of the *Oxford Latin Course* will be used in LATI 104.)

### Recommended

- A Latin dictionary is desirable (or, if you intend to continue to LATI 104, virtually a necessity). PG recommends the tiny *Collins Gem* Latin dictionary, which additionally contains complete tables of Latin endings. It is available at bookshops downtown (not at the VUW bookshop) for about \$16.
- In the long run, it will be useful to own a Latin grammar for reference purposes. These can often be picked up at 2nd-hand bookshops. I especially recommend: Allen & Greenough's *New Latin Grammar*; Gildersleeve & Lodge's *Latin Grammar*; Kennedy's *Revised Latin Primer*. A cost-free copy of Allen & Greenough may be downloaded in pdf format at <http://www.textkit.com> (22 MB file).
- Students should consult their teacher before using other online resources, because websites are inaccurate more often than not.

## Course description, aims, objectives, and learning outcomes

- This course aims to provide students with a general knowledge of the Latin language and, more importantly, the tools with which to read and understand simple Latin. We cover about one third of the basic grammar and syntax of Latin.
- This is an introductory course and is designed to give students who wish to continue with Latin the necessary level of competence to take LATI 104. Both LATI 103 and LATI 104 are prerequisites for continuation to Latin at 2nd-year level.
- A student who has successfully completed LATI 103 and 104 will have read unadapted passages of classical Latin and, with the aid of a dictionary, will be able to read the more straightforward Latin authors.

## Course requirements

- To be eligible to pass this course, a student must sit and pass the *Language Aptitude Test* at the end of week 1. Training and guidance for this test will be given in the first three classes. This test is designed so that if any students find that their interests and/or study habits are unsuited to a language course, they can get early warning.
- Students should note that it is virtually impossible for any student to pass the course without attending and fully participating in at least 90% of all classes. (If you *are* capable of doing this, you should be doing LATI 104 instead of LATI 103.)

## Workload and assessment

- The course is 100% internally assessed. This is because learning any language requires continual discipline and practice; it is a cumulative process where each step builds on everything that has gone before.
- An average student should spend no less **12 hours per week** on this course. Any less than this will mean dropping behind, and if this happens *it will be virtually impossible to catch up*.
- The assessment and internal coursework (including non-assessed exercises and drills) are designed to allow both student and lecturer to evaluate the student's progress in accomplishing the objectives of the course. Assessment is designed to help the student and the lecturer evaluate progress in three key areas, as well as to provide a final grade:
  - (1) memorisation of vocabulary and grammatical points;
  - (2) understanding of how vocabulary and grammar are used, tested by the translation of simple sentences of Latin to English or English to Latin; and
  - (3) application of the student's knowledge by translating longer passages from Latin to English.The internal assessment is as follows:

### 5 x 30-minute TESTS in class (60%)

- Attendance is required for a mark to be recorded in these tests.
- Each test is equally weighted and is worth 12% of the overall course mark.
- The first test is a *Language Aptitude Test*, which will have three components: (1) knowledge of parts of speech and basic syntax; (2) deciphering a made-up language, based on examples; (3) knowledge of Latin vocabulary from chapters 1 to 3.

The test is designed so that any students whose interests or study habits are unsuited to learning Latin language can get early warning.

### 2 x take-home ASSIGNMENTS (40%)

- Due dates for the two assignments are **Tue. 8 April** and **Tue. 13 May**, with a deadline of 5 pm.
- Question sheets for assignments will be handed out in class a week before the assignment is due.
- Assignments must be submitted in the Assignment Box on the wall outside OK 508. No responsibility will be taken for assignments given to staff members, placed in pigeonholes, under office doors, or submitted by any other means.
- Under NO CIRCUMSTANCES WHATSOEVER may an assignment be submitted by e-mail.
- Each assignment is equally weighted and is worth 20% of the overall course mark.

### **Late submission:**

- (a) Extensions (on medical grounds supported by a doctor's certificate, or for some other necessary and demonstrable reason) must be applied for **no later than the final date for acceptance**. No extensions will be given retroactively.
- (b) Late assignments for which an extension has not been granted will be accepted up until Monday 4 June. They will, however, accumulate a penalty of 5% per work day (the overall mark will be zero if the penalty exceeds the mark), and no feedback other than the mark will be given.
- (c) Under no circumstances will any written work be accepted after Tuesday 3 June 2007.

## General University Requirements

- Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the Victoria University Calendar available in hardcopy or under "about Victoria" on the Victoria homepage at [http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about\\_victoria/calendar\\_intro.html](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/calendar_intro.html).
- Information on the following topics is available electronically under "Course Outline General Information" at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/newspubs/universitypubs.aspx#general>:
  - Academic Grievances
  - Student and Staff Conduct
  - Meeting the Needs of Students with Impairments
  - Student Support

## Plagiarism

(It is not actually possible to plagiarise in this course, but the university's standard statement has to be included here anyway.)

Academic integrity is about honesty — put simply, it means no cheating. All members of the University community are responsible for upholding academic integrity, which means staff and students are expected to behave honestly, fairly and with respect for others at all times.

Plagiarism is a form of cheating which undermines academic integrity. The University defines plagiarism as follows:

[Plagiarism is t]he presentation of the work of another person or other persons as if it were one's own, whether intended or not. This includes published or unpublished work, material on the Internet, and the work of other students or staff.

It is still plagiarism even if you re-structure the material or present it in your own style or words.

Note: It is however, perfectly acceptable to include the work of others as long as that is acknowledged by appropriate referencing.

Plagiarism is prohibited at Victoria and is not worth the risk. Any enrolled student found guilty of plagiarism will be subject to disciplinary procedures under the *Statute on Student Conduct* and may be penalised severely. Consequences of being found guilty of plagiarism can include:

- an oral or written warning
- cancellation of your mark for an assessment or a fail grade for the course
- suspension from the course or the University.

Find out more about plagiarism, and how to avoid it, on the University's website: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

## Course schedule

- NB: this schedule is not set in stone. We shall be reasonably flexible about how fast we take the material, depending on a number of factors (including how fast students want to take it).
- The schedule indicates the **barest minimum** of what we shall cover by the end of the course.

<i>Week</i>	<i>Chapters</i>	<i>Material covered, tests, assignments</i>
<b>1</b> (25 Feb. – 1 Mar.)	Book I: Chh. 1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• parts of speech and remedial syntax</li> <li>• pronunciation</li> <li>• <b>Syntax:</b> subject, verb, and object; prepositional phrases</li> <li>• <b>Verbs:</b> 3rd person singular</li> <li>• <b>Nouns:</b> nominative and accusative cases; gender</li> <li>• <b>Adjectives:</b> agreement of adjectives</li> <li>• <b>Language Aptitude Test on Friday (12%)</b></li> </ul>
<b>2</b> (3 – 7 Mar.)	Ch. 4-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Nouns:</b> singular and plural</li> <li>• <b>Adjectives:</b> agreement of adjectives</li> <li>• <b>Verbs:</b> present tense (all forms, all conjugations and <i>sum</i>)</li> </ul>
<b>3</b> (10 – 14 Mar.)	Chh. 6-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Verbs:</b> infinitive; mixed conjugation</li> <li>• <b>Nouns:</b> vocative case; 3rd declension</li> <li>• <b>30-min. test on Friday (12%)</b></li> </ul>
<b>4</b> (17 – 20 Mar.)	Chh. 8-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Nouns:</b> genitive case</li> <li>• <b>Verbs:</b> imperative</li> <li>• <b>Adverbs:</b> regular adverbs</li> </ul>
University closed Fri. 21 – Tue. 25 Mar.		
<b>5</b> (26 – 28 Mar.)	Ch. 10-11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Nouns:</b> neuter nouns and adjectives; dative case</li> <li>• <b>30-min. test on Friday (12%)</b></li> </ul>
<b>6</b> (31 Mar. – 4 Apr.)	Ch. 12-13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review</li> <li>• <b>Syntax:</b> subordinate clauses</li> <li>• <b>Pronouns:</b> <i>qui/quae/quod</i></li> </ul>
<b>7</b> (7 – 11 Apr.)	Chh. 14-15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Pronouns:</b> <i>is/ea/id, ille/illa/illud</i>; personal pronouns <i>ego, tu, nos, vos</i></li> <li>• <b>Verbs:</b> irregular verbs <i>volo, nolo</i></li> <li>• <b>1st assignment due (20%)</b></li> </ul>
MID-TRIMESTER BREAK		
<b>8</b> (28 Apr. – 2 May)	Ch. 16 Book II: Ch. 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Verbs:</b> imperfect and perfect tenses</li> <li>• <b>30-min. test on Friday (12%)</b></li> </ul>
<b>9</b> (5 – 9 May)	Ch. 18-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Verbs:</b> perfect stems (continued); pluperfect tense</li> </ul>
<b>10</b> (12 – 16 May)	Chh. 20-21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Nouns:</b> 4th and 5th declensions</li> <li>• <b>Verbs:</b> perfect stems (continued)</li> <li>• <b>2nd assignment due (20%)</b></li> </ul>
<b>11</b> (19 – 23 May)	Chh. 22-23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Verbs:</b> perfect stems (concluded); irregular verb <i>fero</i></li> </ul>
<b>12</b> (26 – 30 May)	Chh. 24-25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Adjectives:</b> comparison of adjectives and adverbs</li> <li>• <b>30-min. test on Friday (12%)</b></li> </ul>