



School of Art History, Classics and Religious Studies

CLASSICS

LATI 401: Latin Prose Texts

(Trimesters 1/2; March 1-November 14, 2010)

Full-year Course Dates

End of trimester: 13 November

End of teaching: 15 October

Study week begins: 18 October

Examination/Assessment period: 22 October to 13 November 2010

Withdrawal Dates

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

Names and Contact Details

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**Class Times
and Locations**

Livy, *Ab urbe conditur* Book VI (Cambridge)

(3 hours a week for 6 weeks starting on March 1;

Mon, Thur, Fri 12-1, OK523)

Tacitus, *Histories*, ed. Damon (Cambridge)

(3 hrs for 6 weeks in the First Half of trimester 2), Mon,

Wed, Thur 4-5, OK 523)

Jerome, Selected Saints Lives (Text from the Lecturer)

(2 hrs for 6 weeks in the second trimester, place and times
TBD)

Course Delivery

The course will be delivered in a seminar format featuring discussion of text that has been translated prior to class by the students. There will be readings in the secondary literature on occasion. It is essential that students keep up so that they may receive the most benefit from instruction and discussion.

Communication of Additional Information

Any additional information (terms lists, changes, unofficial exam results, etc) will be posted on the Departmental notice board on the FIFTH floor of OLD KIRK. A notice giving examination times and places for all courses taught in the Classics will also be posted there when this information is available. The Classics WWW page (<http://www.vuw.ac.nz/classics>) contains useful information on Classics in general.

Course Content

This course will read in Latin and discuss excerpts from Livy's *Ab urbe conditur*, Tacitus' *Histories*, and various saint's lives by Jerome.

Learning Objectives

1. To increase fluency and speed in reading Latin.
2. To think critically about the language and the authors in question.

By the end of the course the student should have:

- a. Read a substantial amount of Livy's and Tacitus' *Histories*, and select saint's lives of Jerome.
- b. Been introduced to the main themes of the texts and issues around the aims and objectives of these texts as Latin prose;
- c. Understood the place that Livy, Tacitus and Jerome hold in the development of Roman literature.

The assessment will assess how well you have achieved these objectives.

Expected Workload

In order to complete the course successfully an average student should expect to spend about 12 hours per week. This includes 2 or 3 hours of class time and the balance translating the set-texts and reading in preparation for the writing of the final essay.

Readings (Essential and Required Texts)

Livy, *Ab urbe conditur* Book VI (Cambridge)
Tacitus *Histories*, ed. Damon (Cambridge)
Jerome, *Selected Saints' Lives* (Text from the Lecturer)

For the first two weeks of trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer, while postgraduate textbooks and student notes will be available from the top floor of vicbooks in the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. After week two all undergraduate textbooks will be sold from vicbooks and student notes from the Student Notes Distribution Centre on the ground floor of the Student Union Building.

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from the shop. Customers will be contacted when they are available. Opening hours are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays). Phone: 463 5515.

Assessment (Out of 100%)

- (1) Essay (25%)

An essay based on one of the three authors whose subject is to be determined in conjunction with the course instructors (ca. 1500 – 2000 words in length).

This activity is meant to give students a chance to demonstrate knowledge informed by research on one of the three set authors.

DUE DATE: 6 September, 2010

(2) Translation/Grammar Test (15%)

A one hour test to be given at some point in June.

The precise form of the test as well as its date will be discussed early in trimester one. This examination is meant to test students' ability to translate Latin and to identify grammatical structures in the works read up to that point in the year.

(3) Final Examination (60%) – 3 hours (**Exam period is 22 October to 14 November; Students must be certain to be available to sit the examination at any point during the exam period**)

6 passages (2 each) from a choice of 12 from the three authors for translation and comment. The Final Examination will test both proficiency with the Latin language and the ability to discuss the content of the poems.

Penalties

Extensions must be sought through the instructor prior to the due date of the essay. In the absence of an extension overdue work will be penalised by 5% per day at the discretion of the instructor. Workload issues don't constitute a compelling reason for the request of an extension.

Mandatory Course Requirements

There are three mandatory requirements: 1) the essay, 2) the translation/grammar test and 3) the final examination (see above).

Class Representative

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

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

Use of Turnitin

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. At the discretion of the Head of School, handwritten work may be copy-typed by the School and subject to checking by Turnitin. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted material on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions is not made available to any other party.

GENERAL UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND STATUTES

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* or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

The AVC(Academic) website also provides information for students in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates. This website can be accessed at:

http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic/Publications.aspx