



LATI 103

Introduction to Latin

TEACHING DATES

SUMMER TRIMESTER 2012:
 19 November–21 December 2012

CLASS TIMES & LOCATIONS

Four classes a week:

Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri.
 11am–12.50pm
 HM LT104

INSTRUCTOR

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TEXTBOOK

M. Balme and J. Morwood. *Oxford Latin Course*, 2nd edition (OUP 1996): Parts I and II.

All textbooks and student notes for the third trimester will be available from vicbooks on Level 4 of the Student Union Building.

Customers can order textbooks online at 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 nominated collection points at each campus. Customers will be contacted when they are available.

Opening hours are 8am–6pm, Monday–Friday during term time (closing at 5pm in the holidays). Phone: 463 5515.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information will be posted on the Classics Programme noticeboard (on Old Kirk, fifth floor) and on Blackboard.

Course Prescription: An introduction to the Latin language for beginners, with emphasis on the acquisition of basic reading skills.

WITHDRAWAL DATES

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds>

TEACHING & LEARNING SUMMARY

This course is taught via a seminar format in which the lecturer assists in explaining Latin grammar, vocabulary and translation; students participate fully in all activities such as explanation and learning, as well as reading and translating sentences and passages.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

LATI 103 aims to provide students with a general knowledge of Latin. We cover roughly 40% of basic Latin grammar and syntax. The main focus will be on reading, understanding and translating Latin into English. Both students and lecturer will be able to evaluate progress in realising these objectives via the assessment (see page 3).

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. read and understand straight-forward passages of Latin, with the aid of a dictionary and grammar,
2. demonstrate comprehension of the elements (vocabulary, morphology and syntax) of Latin language,
3. continue the study of Latin in LATI 104.

EXPECTED WORKLOAD

The average student should expect to need to spend approximately 200 hours in total on this course. This is an average of 40 hours *per week*, including 8 hours per week for classes and in-class assessment and 32 hours per week for self-directed study (preparation for class, revision for tests and the completion of the take-home assignment).

LANGUAGE LEARNING METHODS

PREPARATION FOR CLASS: Learning languages is a cumulative process. Each step builds on the previous one and is consolidated through practice. It is highly recommended that students attend and participate in all classes and complete all preparation for each class. Do not get left behind! If you 'take a rest' for even just half a week, you may not be able to catch up afterwards. If you *do* keep up, of course, you are likely to enjoy success.

The single most beneficial thing you can do in learning a language is to work on it every day. Beginning language courses require constant learning, practice and revision. I recommend that you put in 2-4 hours daily, in addition to class time. The assessment consists of several short tests and assignments, rather than one larger final examination, to encourage you to prepare, practise and revise regularly.

HOMEWORK: You must prepare the translations and exercises assigned for each class. It is your responsibility to see that you understand by the end of each class what errors you have made in your preparation and why. Don't be afraid to ask questions! You are unlikely to be the only one confused, so please ask in class if you don't get it.

EXERCISES: For each lesson there are exercises at the end of the book which give practice on Latin grammar and morphology. You are responsible for learning the paradigms, forms and vocabulary in the lessons as well. There is also a Reference Grammar section with tables that summarise all of the word-forms that you need to know. The more practice you get, the more comfortable you will be with the material. We will do most of the exercises in class, and you are expected to attempt answers.

PRACTICE: Reading over Latin can only get you so far and it will prove fruitless to hope that information will transfer itself into your brain by osmosis. It always pays to write things down, to draw up lists and tables, to ask and answer questions, to quiz a friend—in short, anything that promotes *active* engagement with the language.

Note that the *OLC* contains short supplementary passages on Roman culture in each lesson. While you will not be tested on any of this material, I strongly urge you to read these passages and to raise any questions that arise in class. One obvious goal of learning Latin is to gain an understanding of Roman civilisation.

It is a good idea to maintain a reference grammar of your own. Not only will your own Reference Grammar be laid out as you want it, so you can find what you are looking for much

more quickly and understand it more easily, but also writing things out helps you learn them. Use a folder subdivided into sections (e.g. 'Nouns', 'Verbs', 'Miscellaneous', etc.) where you can add pages to each section as we cover more material. I know it sounds a bit like primary school, but coloured pens and highlighters really help a lot.

PREPARING A TRANSLATION: 'Preparing' a piece of Latin, means working your way thoroughly through it, looking up any words that you do not know and trying to understand how they fit together and what each sentence means. You should come to class ready to translate the Latin into English.

Preparation can be time-consuming. You will need to make a note of what each unfamiliar word seems to mean. There are different opinions about the best way to keep notes: some people just make a list of the unfamiliar vocabulary, for instance, while others write in the text, in pencil, the meaning of anything they have looked up. Do not write out a separate English translation of the whole passage. Simply reading in class from your translation will do nothing for your grasp of Latin. In fact, you will be expected to translate in class without reading your translation.

It is advisable to make notes on any parts of the Latin you did not initially understand as we go over them in class. Going over previous class translations is a very useful way of preparing for tests, since doing so fixes the grammar and vocabulary in your mind, and helps you to develop a "feel" for the language.

VOCABULARY LEARNING: Learning vocab is the part of learning any language that takes the most discipline. It is ongoing, persistent, and inevitable. You can *never* afford to skim on it. Spend 30–60 minutes after every class learning vocabulary. Learn words from the chapter covered that day (about 10 words/day) and make sure that you can still remember the vocabulary from a previous chapter, since these words carry on throughout the course. Ensure that you can translate both ways—Latin to English *and* English to Latin. Then you will be learning *actively*, rather than just recognising words *passively*. You are also very likely to be tested on your skills in translating from English into Latin. It will help to maintain your own vocab list. Not only will you have a full list of all the words you need to know, but the act of recording them will help you learn them.

ASSESSMENT

CRITERIA: The assessments (and non-assessed exercises) 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.
3. application of the student's knowledge by translating longer passages from Latin to English.

LATI 103 is 100% internally assessed.

3× IN-CLASS QUIZZES:

(10% each = 30%)

1. Friday 23 November, in class.
2. Friday 30 November, in class.
3. Friday 7 December, in class

Three 20-minute quizzes (worth 10% each), each assessing comprehension of recently-studied material (see the Proposed Schedule, page 5), through vocabulary and grammar exercises, including translation of short passages from Latin to English and/or English to Latin.

These quizzes are primarily intended to reinforce vocabulary and grammar on a regular basis, though some revision of earlier material may be necessary.

1× TAKE-HOME TRANSLATION ASSIGNMENT:

(30%)

1. Monday 17 December, by 10.00am

A take-home assignment (worth 30%) of an extended passage for translation from Latin to English, with accompanying questions relating to the vocabulary and grammar in the passage, intended to assess the student's translation skills.

The assignment will be posted on Blackboard (under Assignment) on Monday, 10 December. Your assignment must be submitted through the Assignment page on Blackboard by 10.00am on the due date.

1× FINAL TEST:

(40%)

1. Friday 21 December, at 12.00pm

A 50-minute comprehensive test (worth 40%) of all things studied in the course, focusing on recently-studied material. Note that the test will begin at 12.00pm, *i.e.* in the normal second half of the class, so that you can revise before hand.

Further guidance on the format of the final test will be provided in the week beginning 17 December.

EXTENSIONS AND PENALTIES

All tests must be taken on the day set, unless there are medical or other demonstrable extenuating circumstances. The assignment must be submitted (*via* Blackboard) before the due date and time; 5 marks (out of 100) will be docked for each working date late. Variances will be considered upon application—ideally in advance.

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

There are no mandatory course requirements.

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.

STATEMENT ON LEGIBILITY

Students are expected to write clearly. Where work is deemed 'illegible', the options are:

- the student will be given a photocopy of the work and asked to transcribe it to an acceptable standard (preferably typed) within a specified time frame after which penalties will apply;
- the student will be given a photocopy of the work and asked to transcribe it to an acceptable standard (preferably typed) and lateness penalties apply;
- if the student does not transcribe it to an acceptable standard, the work will be accepted as 'received' (so any associated mandatory course requirements are met) but not marked.

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: victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism

WHERE TO FIND MORE DETAILED INFORMATION

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at victoria.ac.nz/home/study. Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress. Most statutes and policies are available at victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy, except qualification statutes, which are available via the *Calendar* webpage at victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the Academic Office website, at victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcademic.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE

The dates of assessment items are fixed; other items are subject to change which will be announced in class & on Blackboard if necessary.

WEEK	DAY	WORK	ASSESSMENT
1	Mon. 19/11	Intro to the Course, Pronunciation & Grammar, <i>OLC 1</i> subject + verb; 3 rd person sg.; adjective agreement	
	Wed. 21	<i>OLC 2, 3</i> nominative + accusative; 1 st + 2 nd declensions; 1 st -4 th conjugations; gender	
	Thurs. 22	<i>OLC 4</i> 3 rd person pl.; nom. + acc. pl.; <i>ille</i>	
	Fri. 23	<i>OLC 5 (exercises)</i> 1 st -3 rd person; <i>sum</i> ; ablative; prepositions	Quiz (10%), in class
2	Mon. 26	<i>OLC 5 (reading), 6</i> infinitives; mixed conjugation; vocative; questions	
	Wed. 28	<i>OLC 7, 8 (exercises)</i> 3 rd declension (nouns + adjectives); <i>possum, eō</i> ; imperatives; prepositions + compound verbs	
	Thurs. 29	<i>OLC 8 (reading), 9 (exercises)</i> genitive case; adverbs	
	Fri. 30	<i>OLC 9 (reading)</i>	Quiz (10%), in class
3	Mon. 3/12	<i>OLC 10</i> neuter	
	Wed. 5	<i>OLC 11</i> dative	
	Thurs. 6	<i>OLC 12, 13 (exercises)</i> ablative case; <i>est + sunt</i> ; subordinate clauses: relatives	
	Fri. 7	<i>OLC 13 (reading)</i>	Quiz (10%), in class
4	Mon. 10	<i>OLC 14, 15</i> pronouns; reflexives; <i>volō + nōlō</i> ; demonstratives	
	Wed. 12	<i>OLC 16, 17 (Part II)</i> imperfect tense; perfect tense + stems; numbers; time expressions	
	Thurs. 13	<i>OLC 18</i> perfect stems; pluperfect tense	
	Fri. 14	<i>OLC 19</i>	
5	Mon. 17	<i>OLC 20, 21 (exercises)</i> 4 th + 5 th declensions	Assignment (30%), 10am
	Wed. 19	<i>OLC 21 (reading), 22 (exercises)</i> ablative case (uses); irregular verb (<i>ferō</i>)	
	Thurs. 20	<i>OLC 22 (reading), 23</i> ablative case (uses)	
	Fri. 21		Final Test (40%), 12pm