

CLAS 101 E - Latin and Greek in Current Use
Spring Qr 2026, T Th 08:30am-09:20am, SMI 307

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<https://classics.washington.edu>

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Required Text:

- William J. Dominik, *Words and Ideas* (Bolchazy - Carducci).
 - There is a copy of this on the reserve shelf in Odegaard library. For Classics majors, see information for the Classics Undergraduate Textbook Fund here: <https://classics.washington.edu/undergraduate-textbook-fund>

Reference Texts:

- Any reputable English dictionary with etymological entries, e.g. *The American Heritage Dictionary* (3rd ed.), or *Webster's New World Dictionary*.
- The *Oxford English Dictionary* (OED) is also available free online: go to <http://lib.washington.edu/> □ Log In □ click "Start your research" (then "more") □ click "Oxford English Dictionary (OED)" under the heading "Quick Fact Resources".

Course Aims:

The aims of the class are twofold. First, we will seek to improve and increase English vocabulary through a study of the Latin and Greek elements in English, with emphasis on words in current literary and scientific use. The Latin and Greek elements learned in this course will help you better understand how many English words have evolved, and prepare you to continue expanding your English vocabulary well after the class is over. Second, we will examine the ever-changing relationship between language and ideas in order to better understand the continuing impact of classical Greece and Rome on modern culture. This course aims to give you a sense of the words, ideas, and stories that we have adopted from the ancient Greeks and Romans, and to help you identify classical influence when you encounter it.

Class Conduct: (*More about UW's policies on conduct and accommodation at end of syllabus*)

Out of courtesy to your classmates and to me, please come to class **on time** and prepared to contribute. Cellphones and other such electronics must be **silent or off**. I strongly encourage you to take notes by hand — it will help you remember the material better. **The use of artificial intelligence (such as ChatGPT) is not allowed in this course.** University conduct and scholarly integrity codes should be followed at all times.

If absence is unavoidable due to illness or other legitimate circumstance (e.g. family emergency, religious or cultural obligation, court date, university-sponsored competition or field trip), **please contact me via e-mail to let me know** before class. If you are absent, it is **your responsibility**

to find out what you missed in class, to catch up on any missed homework, and to schedule make-ups for any quizzes or exams.

I cannot discuss grades during class or via e-mail due to university policy, but only during office hours and by appointment only. If a student has questions regarding assignments, tests, homework or any other matter, I will be more than happy to discuss that in my office.

Grading:

Homework/Participation: Active classroom participation is important. The first step in participating in class is regularly attending. Beyond simply showing up, I expect everyone both to be prepared (by having read the assigned material and completed any homework assignments) and to participate actively in class discussions and activities. Completion of homework assignments will count for 30 points, as will regular participation in class, for a total of 60 points. Homework and participation account for a large portion of your grade – if you were to get a zero in this category, the highest course grade you could receive is a 3.1! Late homework assignments can still be submitted after the due date for partial credit.

Quizzes: There will be three quizzes worth 80 points each given over the course of the term (see schedule below for dates). You will be given the whole class period to complete them. Make-up opportunities will **only** be given due to a legitimate absence, as defined above, and then **only** if the absent student promptly e-mails me to reschedule (within five days). I strongly recommend keeping up on relevant vocabulary from each chapter as we cover it by completing your homework and attending class; this will make preparation easier and allow you to get higher scores. I will provide a study guide to help you prepare for each quiz.

Final Exam: The Final, worth 130 points, will be on Tuesday, June 9th, from 10:30am–12:20pm in SMI 307. In accordance with university policy, **the final exam will be administered only on this date and at this time.** Final Examination Guidelines, including policy on ‘unavoidable absence’: <https://www.washington.edu/students/reg/examguide.html>

Bonus points: Bonus points will be offered in the quizzes and in the final. Even if a student has achieved the maximum score for a given quiz or final without the bonus points, any earned bonuses will be ‘banked’ for use towards the student’s overall points total for the course. There will be one extra credit assignment worth 20 points.

Grading Breakdown:

Participation + Homework: 60 Points
Quizzes: 3 x 80 = 240 Points
Final exam: 130 Points

Total: 430 points

Grading Scale:

4.0: 430-411	3.0: 365-361	2.0: 315-311	1.0: 265-261
3.9: 410-406	2.9: 360-356	1.9: 310-306	0.9: 260-256
3.8: 405-401	2.8: 355-351	1.8: 305-301	0.8: 255-251

3.7: 400-396	2.7: 350-346	1.7: 300-296	0.7: 250-246
3.6: 395-391	2.6: 345-341	1.6: 295-291	0.0: 245 or fewer*
3.5: 390-386	2.5: 340-336	1.5: 290-286	
3.4: 385-381	2.4: 335-331	1.4: 285-281	
3.3: 380-376	2.3: 330-326	1.3: 280-276	
3.2: 375-371	2.2: 325-321	1.2: 275-271	
3.1: 370-366	2.1: 320-316	1.1: 270-266	

* Note: in order to pass this class, you must receive 246 points or greater.

All readings and assignments ***are due*** on the day they are listed on the syllabus.

Tuesday, March 31:

- Introduction & syllabus

Thursday, April 2:

- What is Classics?
- Chapter 1 – Word Building Basics: Read pp. 1-15

Tuesday, April 7:

- “What is Classics?” continued
- Appendices I-III – Diphthongs, Numbers, and Colors: Read pp. 251-256

Thursday, April 9:

- Chapter 4 – Mythology: Read pp. 75-99
 - Note: this reading includes description of sexual violence and/or rape
- Responsible for: *Greek Nouns/Adjectives* – pp. 19-25

Tuesday, April 14:

- **Homework:** Ch. 4 ex. 2-3

Thursday, April 16:

- Review Day for Quiz #1, bring questions to class

Tuesday, April 21:

- **Quiz #1**

Thursday, April 23:

- Chapter 5 – Medicine, pp. 105-139
- Responsible for: *Greek Adverbs/Verbs* – pp. 25-29

Tuesday, April 28:

- **Homework:** Ch. 5 ex. 4-5, Ch. 6 ex. 3
- Chapter 6 – Politics and Law, pp. 145-164
- Responsible for: *Greek Prefixes/Suffixes* – pp. 29-36

Thursday, April 30:

- Chapter 7 – Commerce and Economics, pp. 169-187
- Review Greek word-building from Ch. 2

Tuesday, May 5:

- Quiz #2

Thursday, May 7:

- Chapter 8 – Philosophy and Psychology, pp. 191-206 (stop before “psyche”)
- Responsible for: *Latin Nouns/Verbs* – pp. 45-48

Tuesday, May 12:

- Chapter 8 – Philosophy and Psychology, pp. 206-219
- **Homework**: Ch. 7 ex. 4, Ch. 8 ex. 6(b)
- Responsible for: *Latin Prefixes* – pp. 48-55

Thursday, May 14:

- Chapter 9 – History, pp. 227-238

Tuesday, May 19:

- Chapter 9 – History, pp. 238-246
- Review Latin word-building from Ch. 3

Thursday, May 21:

- Quiz #3

Tuesday, May 26:

- Greek Heroes
- **Homework**: Ch. 9 ex. 1, 2(a)
- Responsible for: *Latin Suffixes* – pp. 55-63

Thursday, May 28:

- Greek Heroes/Epic
- Word-building review

Tuesday, June 2:

- Epic poetry
- Word-building review

Thursday, June 5:

- Review day – bring questions

Tuesday, June 9:

- **FINAL EXAM** – SMI 307 10:30am–12:20 pm

I reserve the right to modify the syllabus at any time

Important UW policy-related things to know:

UW's Religious Accommodations Policy: "Washington state law requires that UW develop a policy for accommodation of student absences or significant hardship due to reasons of faith or conscience, or for organized religious activities. The UW's policy, including more information about how to request an accommodation, is available at Religious Accommodations Policy (<https://registrar.washington.edu/staffandfaculty/religious-accommodations-policy/>).

Accommodations must be requested within the first two weeks of this course using <https://registrar.washington.edu/students/religious-accommodations-request/>, the Religious Accommodations Request form."

UW's Student Conduct Code: "The University of Washington Student Conduct Code (WAC 478-121) defines prohibited academic and behavioral conduct and describes how the University holds students accountable as they pursue their academic goals. Allegations of misconduct by students may be referred to the appropriate campus office for investigation and resolution. More information can be found online at <https://www.washington.edu/studentconduct/>."

UW Disability Resources: Access and Accommodations: Your experience in this class is important to me. If you have already established accommodations with Disability Resources for Students (DRS), please communicate your approved accommodations to me at your earliest convenience so we can discuss your needs in this course.

If you have not yet established services through DRS, but have a temporary health condition or permanent disability that requires accommodations (conditions include but not limited to; mental health, attention-related, learning, vision, hearing, physical or health impacts), you are welcome to contact DRS at 206-543-8924 or uwdrs@uw.edu or disability.uw.edu. DRS offers resources and coordinates reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities and/or temporary health conditions. Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process between you, your instructor(s) and DRS. It is the policy and practice of the UW to create inclusive and accessible learning environments consistent with federal and state law.

Academic Integrity: University of Washington students are expected to practice high standards of academic and professional honesty and integrity as outlined here: <https://www.washington.edu/cssc/for-students/academic-misconduct/>

UW Language on Face Covering in the Classroom (COVID): UW's [current mask recommendations](#) are as follows:

- Masks are strongly recommended when resuming normal activities after having COVID-19 or another respiratory illness, indoors when around others, for the next five days.

- Masks are strongly recommended after COVID-19 exposure, indoors when around others, until five days have passed from when you were exposed. In addition, follow the Public Health Flowchart for [COVID-19 and Respiratory Virus Symptoms](#).
- Free masks are available at the information and circulation desks at Suzzalo Library