



Apollo-Ridge Middle & High School

Course Syllabus and Classroom Procedures

2022-2023

Introduction to Latin

Instructor's Name: Mrs. Kelly Hart

Instructor's Contact Information

Phone Number (extension)
(724) 478-6000 (Ext: 1106)

Email Address
HartK@ApolloRidge.com

Course Description:

Introduction to Latin is an introductory course to reading, writing, and speaking ancient Latin. During this related arts rotation, students will become acquainted with some basic yet essential grammatical concepts found in both Latin and English, and strengthen their knowledge of derivatives. Additionally, students will explore various facets of Greco-Roman culture, including but not limited to mythology, Roman daily life, and the development of western civilization.

Course Resources:

The school will provide the following textbooks:

- Cambridge Latin Course, Unit 1, North American 4th Edition, 2001
- Other Classroom books in Magistra's shelves

Always bring your textbook & Latin materials to class everyday:

- Loose-leaf paper or notebook
- 3-ring binder
- Writing Utensils: pencils, pens, highlighter(s)
- A ready attitude to learn!

Textbooks will be assigned to each student, but will remain in the classroom for the duration of this class. Students are NOT permitted to take their book home. An online version will be made available for students on their Teams.

Major Instructional Goals:

The goals of Introduction to Latin are as follows: 1) to provide a competent introduction to Latin grammar, syntax, vocabulary, etc.; 2) to provide some knowledge of Ancient Rome and Greece, its culture, its mythology, and history; 3) to have fun while learning an historical and ancient language, one that has had an enormous impact on the world!

"Inspire Growth and Prepare Futures"



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Steps for Success:

(Classroom Expectations)

Academic Success

1. Be an ACTIVE learner. Give close attention, make relevant observations and comments, ask questions when you do not understand something. LOOK, LISTEN, RESPOND/SHOW/ASK!

2. Come to class PREPARED. That means each and every class you will have the following:

Your Latin textbook

Writing utensils

Your binder

Loose-leaf paper or notebook

Completed assignments

Other relevant materials

3. STUDY. Reserve time EACH NIGHT for Latin. Any language worth learning builds upon itself. Do your part and start studying from the first day of class. DO IT NOW!

Behavioral Success

Be Respectful:

1. Treat everyone with respect. This includes Mrs. Hart, your colleagues, administrators, janitors, and anyone else who crosses your path during the course of the day, and life. Sass is fine, but DISRESPECT WILL NOT BE TOLERATED AND WILL BE DEALT WITH SWIFTLY. If you have a problem, dissenting opinion, question, or a complaint, express it maturely with no sarcasm or whining. If you choose to disrupt the learning of others, you will be removed from the room.

2. Bullying. This includes not only physical, but also verbal and digital bullying. See number one.

3. Come to class on time. On time means you are in the classroom at your desk with your materials out when class starts. You will be counted tardy if the above requirements are not met. If you are late and come with a note from an administrator or teacher, you will not be counted tardy.

4. Come to class prepared. That means you have all your relevant class materials (book, writing utensil, notebook, etc.) and your assignments are completed.

5. Use the restroom/water fountain before and after class. Do not interrupt Mrs. Hart while she is instructing the class to ask permission to use the bathroom! You have time between classes to take care of your bodily business, so budget your time accordingly.

6. Food and drink, other than bottled liquid (it must have a lid), cannot be consumed during class without permission; cultural activities and designated times during the course of the year are the exception.

7. Keep the table and area around the table clear of debris and detritus.

8. If you make a mess, clean it up.

9. Do not beautify yourself during class.

10. Ms. Hart will dismiss you. Do not pack up early unless Ms. Hart has said that it is OK.

Be BOLD:

1. You will make mistakes and that is okay. I want you to BE BOLD and to give it your best effort.

2. It is okay to say "I don't know" so long as you are willing to learn to later say, "I do know".



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Missed Work:

ATTENDANCE and PROMPTNESS are essential for success in Latin. If you happened to have missed a portion of class, be it an absence or tardiness, IT WILL BE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE UP THE WORK YOU MISSED. That means you must find a trustworthy colleague, see Ms. Hart before/after school, check texts from Remind, check teams, visit HartLatin.com. This process of making up missed work involves you being an ACTIVE and RESPONSIBLE student to seek out and obtain the missing information/work. This task will be on your shoulders and not Mrs. Hart's. You will have two class periods to make up for missing work. If you are absent on the day that an assignment is due or a test is given, you are expected to submit the assignment on the day you return to class or schedule with Mrs. Hart a make-up assessment date within a week.

Late Work:

If you simply did not do your work even though you were present in class, you will be penalized 10% for each day it is late up to 5 days. After the fourth day, no more points will be deducted and therefore the highest grade a student can receive is 50%. Zero Credit will only be assigned when the student has failed to turn in an assignment before the next test cutoff or the grading period cutoff.

If At First You Don't Succeed....:

Corrections: All assignments and assessments may be corrected and handed back in for reduced credit. A word of advice from previous Latin scholars:

- if you learn it well the first time, you will not have to put in the extra work, time, and effort of correcting.
- don't rely on this! You can only achieve up to half the points.

A student must provide Mrs. Hart with a reason for why a student deserves to make corrections. The instructor reserves the right to deny or offer these corrections.

Extra Credit: There is no extra credit at the end of the semester. Any extra credit will be built into existing summatives and activities. You are in charge of your own grade.

Technology Use:

Students are allowed to use laptops in the school at the instructor's discretion. No cell phone or portable music device usage will be permitted in Mrs. Hart's classroom while class is in session at any time except for instructional purposes. The instructor will evaluate laptop usage on a case-by-case basis. If there is a violation of this rule, the instructor will ask the student to put away the device. If this violation persists, the student will receive a discipline referral.

Grading Scale:

A	100-90
B	89-80
C	79-70
D	69-60
F	59-0

Course Point System:

This class will be based on a Total Point System (TPS), where every assignment and assessment will be out of a certain amount of points. Below is a generalization of the types of feedback provided:

Summative Assessments		Experience Points (xp)
Training Quest	Classwork & Homework	10 xp
Side Quest	Quizzes & Small Projects	50 xp



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Formatives:

In addition to the TPS, there will be an **ungraded category** in Sapphire, called “Formatives.” The goal of ***formative assessment*** is to monitor student learning to provide ongoing feedback that can be used *by me* (the teacher) to improve their teaching and *by students* to improve their learning. More specifically, formative assessments:

- help students identify their strengths and weaknesses and target areas that need work
- help Magistra recognize where students are struggling and address problems *immediately*

These can be seen in the form of exit tickets (did Magistra teach the material well enough?) and the **Daily Engagement Assessment**. Students use D.E.A. to self grade on how well they are processing the material learnt during class.

Training Quest Description:

Do you expect to take on an end-game boss without hardcore training, growing stronger, and gaining trustworthy friends to back you up??

I believe that ***short yet frequent and targeted practice*** produces the best results in training, and this applies to acquiring any second language. It is important that students study Latin a little every day outside of the classroom. Expect that work of some kind will be assigned frequently. This could include translating passages from the book or answering questions to a culture section, to reviewing flashcards from previous stages or preparing for an upcoming quest. Homework time should not take more than 10-15 minutes per night.

Side Quest Description:

You will notice that there are no large unit tests mentioned in the syllabus. I believe that tests are not conducive in capturing the true knowledge of students. Instead, the daily engagement of students via Training Quests and formatives are quicker and more accurate snapshots of learning. Quizzes are mini checkpoints, which will be given after numerous formative and training quest opportunities have been provided.

Small, cultural projects also fall under the category of Side Quests. These projects will be used to enrich the students’ understanding and appreciation of Greco-Roman life.

Heroic Quest Description:

Heroic Quests are those projects that take more than three weeks to conduct, meant to provide a deeper understanding and research of a particular subject. These may include...

- Gods and Goddesses
- Heroes of Mythology

Parent-Teacher Conferences:

Official parent teacher conferences are scheduled every year in the fall, but parents/guardians can request parent-teacher conferences at any time by contacting the teacher directly. It is particularly important at the Middle School level to continue to have strong home-school communication. Teachers are required to check their email and voicemail daily, so please contact the teacher with any concerns you may have regarding your child.



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Course Syllabus and Classroom Procedures Sign-Off Sheet

Student Name (Printed): _____

Please return to Mrs. Kelly Hart (A-106)

We have read and reviewed the course syllabus/procedures and understand the general course description and how to contact the course instructor if there are concerns.

Parent/Guardian Name (Print)

____/____/____

date

Student Name

____/____/____

date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Information

Check which is the best option
to get in contact with you:

☐

Primary Phone(s)

☐

Primary Email(s)

☐

Alternate Phone / Email

Please do not hesitate to contact me.
I am most responsive via email, and will respond on school days between
7:00am-8:30am, and 2:30pm-3:00pm.

"Inspire Growth and Prepare Futures"