

Latin

Instructor: Ms. Lauren Downey. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have a question or concern or need to schedule an appointment for extra help.

Email: Lauren_Downey@needham.k12.ma.us

Phone: (781) 455-0800 ext. 22417 (classroom) or 22739 (mailbox only)

Course website: I'm transitioning from the course website to Google classroom. Please make sure to give your classroom code to any family member or liaison or anyone (!) who might want it.

Textbook: *Ecce Romani*, 4th various editions; and supplemental materials

Course of study: The primary goal of Latin is proficient reading comprehension. In order to achieve this, the study of Latin will emphasize vocabulary, grammar, reading, analysis of sentence structure, translating and word derivation. You will learn to read, write and even speak Latin! Roman history and culture, geography and mythology will be studied through readings, videos and class discussions.

Course Objectives

At the end of Latin, a successful student will be able to:

- demonstrate a knowledge of the essential forms, grammar, and syntax of the Latin language as well as a familiarity with basic Latin vocabulary.
- understand how these fundamentals differ from the forms, grammar, and syntax of English, leading to an increased understanding of how both languages function.
- read, understand, and translate adapted passages in Latin.
- read, understand, and translate unadapted passages in Latin with appropriate assistance.
- demonstrate an acquaintance with the daily life and culture of the ancient Romans. These topics may include but are not limited to the Roman living arrangements, meals and food, forms of transportation, and religious practices.
- recognize and understand the values and social attitudes of the ancient Romans, particularly as these are embedded in their language.

Expectations:

Come prepared . . .

- by bringing the necessary materials every day:
 - some way (binder, spiral notebook, online folders) of organizing the following: sections for vocabulary, homework, notes, assessments, and charts/ grammar.
 - your textbook, which must be covered
 - a writing implement
 - any handouts
- with any homework/ assignments completed. This includes studying for graded assessments.
- by being ready to participate and learn.
- by being ready for class

Be respectful. . .

- by showing maturity regarding me, your classmates and the material.
- by allowing one person to speak at a time.
- by being tolerant and allowing for differences in temperament and learning styles.
- by not cheating or plagiarizing. Please take note of the [academic misconduct policy](#).

- by maintaining a safe and productive environment conducive to learning.

Grading:

This course is based primarily on your performance on tests, quizzes and the completion of homework. Graded exercises will reveal your mastery of the Latin language appropriate to the level of instruction. You should expect some sort of quiz every five to seven days of class meetings and tests about two to four times a semester. Graded assessments are returned and kept by students. A grade of less than 60% will require the I get in touch with your parent or guardian. Grades will be updated on PowerSchool fairly regularly but at a minimum every two weeks.

Tests and Quizzes: Each test and quiz has a possible point value and the greater the number of possible points, the more significant the assessment. Generally tests are worth between 75-100 points, quizzes between 30 and 65. You should expect about one vocabulary quiz and one test per chapter. At the end of the term, your grade will be (total points earned)/ (total points possible). In addition to monitoring your grade online, I recommend that you keep track of your own grade so you always know how you are doing.

Projects: The point value of any assigned project will be noted in the project's rubric. If a student takes on an optional, special project, an extra credit grade will be included in the calculation of the grade for the term in which the project is completed. The amount of credit may vary based on the type of project. The manner of assessment will be worked out between the teacher and student before the project begins. The "project" category includes the *Gens Optima* skit, which we will discuss later when we start Roman families.

Homework: Assignments should be completed for the next class meeting. If you have not completed your homework assignment on the due date and are present in school, you will receive a zero. Generally, homework will take approximately thirty minutes. However, not all assignments will take the same amount of time for every student, so you should work until the assignment is finished. Homework will be checked and graded out of a ten point scale. The average of these will be calculated and then counted as one test grade per semester. Therefore, not doing your homework will negatively affect your grade. Late assignments will be accepted but all late homework will receive half credit.

Class Participation: This is essential and almost inseparable from that of homework completion. The student who does not do homework is therefore not prepared to participate in class the next day. Frequently missing homework will negatively affect an assessment of a student's contribution to the class.

Final Exam: The final exam is worth about 10% of your final grade and will be based on the material we have covered throughout the year. In the past, the final exam has been multiple-choice, but there is no guarantee that will be the case this year!

By signing below, I indicate that I have received Ms. Downey's Latin course expectations. My teacher has explained the contents to me and I agree to accept the goals of this expectations and objectives. I agree to follow the class rules and procedures and complete to the best of my ability the work assigned.

Student name (printed) _____ DATE _____

Student _____

Parent _____