



Department of Classical Studies

Preliminary Course Outline

Latin 1001A: Introductory Latin I Sections 001 and 002 (Fall 2026)

Course Details

This course offers an introduction to Latin, the language of the ancient Romans and a language used in the medieval and early modern period for learned discourse, diplomacy, business, religion, and more. You do not need to have any experience in Latin or another language in order to succeed in this course. In Latin 1001A (and its second-semester partner course, Latin 1002B) you will learn the fundamentals of grammar (= vocabulary and syntax), with a view to reading and translating short passages of Latin, as we progress systematically through Chapters 1-25 of our textbook, *Wheelock's Latin*. In short, with a little bit of work, you will gain vast rewards and special grammatical powers which you can use them for good or evil, as you desire ;-).

Course Texts

Wheelock F. M. and R. A. LaFleur. *Wheelock's Latin*. Seventh Edition. New York: Harper Collins, 2011. ISBN 978-0061997228. ~ \$31.00 (<https://www.harpercollins.ca>). Additional supplementary resources will be uploaded to OWL.

- **Note: you MUST use the seventh edition.**

Instructor

I am Dr. Debra Nousek (dnousek@uwo.ca) and I will be your instructor for this course. I am an Associate Professor of Classics in the Department of Classical Studies. I teach courses in Roman history and culture, Latin language and literature, and ancient crime and punishment. My research focuses on exploring how the Romans wrote about their history and the literary techniques they used. I am a grammar nerd. I am happy to talk about any of the above in office hours (TBA) or scheduled meetings.

Assessment and Course Grade

The overall course grade will be calculated as listed below:

Classroom attendance and engagement	10%
Weekly quizzes (lowest 2 [of 9] dropped)	20%
Midterm I (Oct 19)*	20%
Midterm II (Nov 23)*	20%
Final Exam (TBA)	30%

*subject to change; test dates will be finalized later this summer

All tests and quizzes will be in person during class time. The final exam will be as scheduled by the Office of the Registrar.

Course Policies and Information

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, you will have gained significant skill in reading and translating Latin texts. You will develop an elementary knowledge of the grammar, syntax, and vocabulary of the Latin language as we progress through the first twelve chapters of our course textbook. Students are strongly advised to enroll in Latin 1002B to complete the beginner's course in Latin and prepare them for advanced study of the language. The systematic study of Latin will also develop your understanding of English grammar. Moreover, in learning to read Latin you will develop your critical thinking skills and intellectual ability; here, you will see how details come together to form a greater whole, wherein a small change really does make tremendous difference.

Attendance

Regular attendance is required. This will make it easier for you to build your skills in Latin. Classroom sessions will include active participation and you will be graded on your participation, preparation, and engagement for *each* class meeting. Homework will be assigned and turned in regularly. Like most skills, learning a language is easiest when it is practiced consistently. Regular attendance goes a long way towards that.

Quiz and Exam Information

There will be regular quizzes for nearly every chapter, normally on Mondays, which focus on vocabulary, grammar, translation, comprehension, composition, sight reading, etc. Quizzes will emphasize material learned since the last quiz. The lowest two quiz scores will be dropped. Because of this flexibility, there will not be make up quizzes.

The midterm tests will take place during our scheduled class time and students will have the full 50-minute meeting for the test. They will assess students' knowledge of the material learned in the previous weeks, such as noun and adjective forms, verb forms, parts of speech, etc. There will also be elements of translation (both Latin to English and English to Latin) as components on the tests. No aids are permitted for the quizzes or tests; similarly, electronic devices of any kind (including calculators, cell phones, smart watches, etc.) are also not permitted.

Policy on Accommodation for Religious Holidays

Students should review the [policy for Accommodation for Religious Holidays](#). Where a student will be unable to write examinations and term tests due to a conflicting religious holiday, they should inform their instructors as soon as possible but not later than two weeks prior to writing the examination/term test. In the case of conflict with a midterm test, students should inform their instructor as soon as possible but not later than one week prior to the midterm.

Statement on the Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)

In this course, the use of AI (including, but not limited to: automatic translation tools, grammar checkers, ChatGPT, other LLMs) is prohibited. If AI use is suspected, the instructor will ask for research notes, rough drafts, essay outlines, and other materials used in preparing assignments. Students are expected to retain these materials until after final grades have been entered. In the unlikely event of concerns being raised about the authenticity of any assignment, students may be asked to produce these materials; an inability to do so may weigh heavily against them. More important, using translation tools or generative AI will impede your independent learning of Latin.

General Information about Missed Coursework

- Students must familiarize themselves with the *University Policy on Academic Consideration – Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs* posted on the Academic Calendar: <https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academicpolicies/appeals/academicconsiderationSep24.pdf>
- This policy does not apply to requests for academic consideration submitted for **attempted or completed work**, whether online or in person. The policy also does not apply to students experiencing longer-term impacts on their academic responsibilities. These students should consult: [Accessible Education](#).
- For procedures on how to submit Academic Consideration requests, please see the information posted on the Office of the Registrar's webpage: <https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academicconsiderations/>
- All requests for Academic Consideration must be made within 48 hours after the assessment date or submission deadline.
- All academic consideration requests must include supporting documentation; however, recognizing that formal documentation may not be available in some extenuating circumstances, the policy allows students to make one Academic Consideration request **without supporting documentation** in this course. However, the final examination (scheduled by the Registrar) is excluded from this, and therefore always requires formal supporting documentation.
- A make-up exam will be arranged in consultation with the student for any missed midterm test.

Important Policies for all Western Courses

Mental Health Support

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to [Mental Health@Western](#) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Academic Accommodation and Accessible Education

Academic Accommodation is “a means of adjusting the academic activities associated with a course or program of student in order to permit students with disabilities to participate in those activities at the University and to fulfill the essential requirements of a course or program.” <https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academicpolicies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodationdisabilities.pdf>. Students with disabilities are encouraged to register with **Accessible Education** at the earliest opportunity. Accessible Education plays a central role in Western's efforts to ensure that its [academic programs are accessible](#) for all students.

Academic Advising

Your Home Faculty's Academic Advising Office will support or refer whenever you have an issue that is affecting your studies, including information on adding/dropping courses, academic considerations for absences, appeals, exam conflicts, and many other academic related matters. Do not hesitate to reach out to them if you are struggling and unsure where to go for help. Contact info for all Faculties is here: <https://registrar.uwo.ca/facultyacademiccounselling.html>

Learning Development and Success

Counsellors at the [Learning Development and Success Centre](#) are ready to help you improve your learning skills. They offer presentations on strategies for improving time management, multiple-choice exam preparation/writing, textbook reading, and more. Individual support is offered throughout the Fall/Winter terms in the drop-in Learning Help Centre, and year-round through individual counselling. Additional [student-run support services](#) are offered by the USC.

Plagiarism

Students must complete assignments in their own words. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar). For Latin courses, this policy applies to the uncredited use of other people's translations.

Scholastic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Gender-based and Sexual Violence

Western University [is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence](#) (GBSV) and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced GBSV (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts, [here](#). To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca.

Tentative Schedule of Assignments

[note: this information will be available at the start of the semester]