



## Department of Classical Studies

### Preliminary Course Outline

#### Latin 3100A/4903A: Latin Prose Selections Fall 2025

##### **Course Details**

Our main project will be to read in Latin Cornelius Nepos' *Life of Hannibal*, followed by readings from Caesar's *Gallic Wars* or similar prose texts. Students will gain expertise and confidence in reading authentic Latin prose from the era of the Roman Republic. We will likewise review and strengthen principles of Latin grammar. There will be in addition some discussion of Latin literary style.

##### **Prerequisite: Latin 2000 or permission of the Department**

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

##### **Course Texts**

No textbooks are required for this course. We will make use of the editions published at the Dickinson College Commentaries website. Students who prefer to use hard copies of the texts should contact the instructor for guidance. We will also discuss the various reference resources available for independent study of Latin (lexica, grammar books, etc.). Some resources will be uploaded to OWL.

##### **Instructor**

I am Dr. Debra Nousek ([dnousek@uwo.ca](mailto: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 engagement                     | 10% |
| Friday quizzes (lowest 2 [of 8] dropped) | 20% |
| Midterm I (Oct 22)                       | 20% |
| Midterm II (Nov 19)                      | 20% |
| Final Exam (TBA)                         | 30% |

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***

The overall goal of this course is to increase students' comfort with and ability to read unadapted Latin prose. Students will gain familiarity with common sentence types and word patterns and will be able to apply their knowledge of Latin syntax, morphology and vocabulary to the reading of Ciceronian prose and that of other Classical Latin authors. A secondary objective of the course is to familiarize students with the political, military and social issues current at the height of Cicero's career.

### ***Learning Outcomes***

At the end of this course students will have improved their command of Latin syntax and morphology. Successful students will be able to read Classical Latin prose with considerable speed and reading comprehension. Students will have become familiar with the ancillary tools for Latin study, including the use of dictionaries, grammars and commentaries both student-oriented and scholarly. In addition, students will have been introduced to the features common to Roman deliberative oratory, and to the political, legal and cultural issues in the late Republic. More broadly, students will have sharpened their skills in analytical and critical thinking.

### ***Attendance***

You are expected to attend all class meetings, and to come prepared to engage with the assigned material. That is, you should have the assigned readings prepared in advance, and be able to translate and analyze the text alongside the class during our course meetings. Regular attendance make it easier for you to develop your skills in reading Latin; advance preparation will help you to review the material and ask questions about any difficult passages or syntactical constructions.

### ***Quiz and Exam Information***

The quizzes and exams will assess your ability in two important aspects of learning Latin: your ability to translate into idiomatic English and your understanding of the grammatical components of the passages. Quizzes will take place during the first 15 minutes of class on select Fridays (see schedule) and will be drawn from material we have covered in class. Make-up quizzes will be permitted at the discretion of the instructor (please inform me in advance if you will miss a class with a quiz). The midterm exams will test your ability to translate, identify grammatical forms and constructions and also your ability to read Latin that you haven't seen before. The second midterm will test material covered since the first midterm; the final exam will be cumulative, but will focus on material covered since the second midterm.

**This course has 8 quizzes, and the 6 quizzes with the highest marks are counted towards your final grade.** Should extenuating circumstances arise, students do not need to request Academic Consideration for the first two missed quizzes. Academic consideration requests will be denied for the first two missed quizzes.

## ***Class Procedure***

At the beginning of each class meeting we will review lingering problems or questions from the previous session. We will proceed through the assignment sentence by sentence, taking turns at random. Students will read the sentence aloud in Latin, to gain proficiency in pronunciation; next, the Latin will be rendered into English, with special attention to verb tenses and moods. Third, we will analyze the grammatical elements of the sentence and review the syntax and morphology of its word components. Finally, we will consider the sentence or paragraph chunk in the larger context of the speech as a whole. Please do not read from a written translation in class; rather, make a vocabulary/notes list that you can refer to if stuck, but focus instead on reading and understanding the Latin.

## ***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](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](mailto:support@uwo.ca).

## Tentative Schedule of Assignments

\*Note: the pace may change if needed (faster or slower). We'll see how things go ☺

|                  |                                    |                   |  |
|------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| <b>F Sep. 05</b> | Intro to Course                    | <b>M Oct. 20</b>  | <i>Hannibal</i> , ch. 13                   |
| <b>M Sep. 08</b> | Grammar refresher/review           | <b>W Oct. 22</b>  | <b>Midterm #1</b>                          |
| <b>W Sep. 10</b> | Grammar refresher/review           | <b>F Oct. 24</b>  | Intro to Caesar, <i>BG</i> ; <i>BG</i> 1.1 |
| <b>F Sep. 12</b> | Grammar refresher/review           | <b>M Oct. 27</b>  | <i>BG</i> 1.2                              |
| <b>M Sep. 15</b> | Nepos, <i>Prologus</i> 1-4         | <b>W Oct. 29</b>  | <i>BG</i> 1.3                              |
| <b>W Sep. 17</b> | Nepos, <i>Prologus</i> 5-8         | <b>F Oct. 31</b>  | <i>BG</i> 1.4 + Quiz #5                    |
| <b>F Sep. 19</b> | <i>Hannibal</i> , ch. 1            | <b>Nov. 03–07</b> | <b>Fall Reading Week</b>                   |
| <b>M Sep. 22</b> | <i>Hannibal</i> , ch. 2            | <b>M Nov. 10</b>  | <i>BG</i> 1.5                              |
| <b>W Sep. 24</b> | <i>Hannibal</i> , ch. 3            | <b>W Nov. 12</b>  | <i>BG</i> 1.6                              |
| <b>F Sep. 26</b> | <i>Hannibal</i> , ch. 4 + Quiz #1  | <b>F Nov. 14</b>  | <i>BG</i> 1.7 + Quiz #6                    |
| <b>M Sep. 29</b> | <i>Hannibal</i> , ch. 5            | <b>M Nov. 17</b>  | <i>BG</i> 1.8                              |
| <b>W Oct. 01</b> | <i>Hannibal</i> , ch. 6            | <b>W Nov. 19</b>  | <b>Midterm #2</b>                          |
| <b>F Oct. 03</b> | <i>Hannibal</i> , ch. 7 + Quiz #2  | <b>F Nov. 21</b>  | No class                                   |
| <b>M Oct. 06</b> | <i>Hannibal</i> , ch. 8            | <b>M Nov. 24</b>  | <i>BG</i> 1.9                              |
| <b>W Oct. 08</b> | <i>Hannibal</i> , ch. 9            | <b>W Nov. 26</b>  | <i>BG</i> 1.10                             |
| <b>F Oct. 10</b> | <i>Hannibal</i> , ch. 10 + Quiz #3 | <b>F Nov. 28</b>  | <i>BG</i> 1.11 + Quiz #7                   |
| <b>M Oct. 13</b> | <b>Thanksgiving Holiday</b>        | <b>M Dec. 01</b>  | <i>BG</i> 1.12                             |
| <b>W Oct. 15</b> | <i>Hannibal</i> , ch. 11           | <b>W Dec. 03</b>  | <i>BG</i> 1.13                             |
| <b>F Oct. 17</b> | <i>Hannibal</i> , ch. 12 + Quiz #4 | <b>F Dec. 05</b>  | <i>BG</i> 1.14 + Quiz #8                   |
|                  |                                    | <b>M Dec. 08</b>  | Catch up and review                        |
|                  |                                    |                   |  |

*Final examination to be scheduled by the Office of the Registrar*