

LATIN POETRY SELECTIONS: CATULLUS



**University of Western Ontario
Latin 3200B/4904B/9200B, Winter 2018
Dr. Kyle Gervais**

INSTRUCTOR

My name is Dr. Kyle Gervais and I'll be your instructor for this course. I moved to UWO in 2014 after completing my Ph.D. in Latin literature at Otago University in New Zealand. Before that, I studied at Queen's (that other great university in Ontario), where I was planning to be a dentist until I took one particularly good Introductory Latin course. In my research I focus on Roman epic poetry of the Flavian period, especially Statius' *Thebaid* (a fantastically dark poem about the sons of Oedipus, who kill each other in a war for their father's throne). But I love (almost) all Latin poetry, including Catullus', which were the first ancient poems I translated for someone other than my profs (poem 5, for my boyfriend on Valentine's; he was unimpressed). I'm particularly interested in how we (that means you and I) respond to the ancient world and its literature; I hope we'll be able to learn some things about that this year. Teaching is both my job and my pleasure, so please contact me in or out of class if you have any questions or thoughts about Latin or the ancient world in general.

CONTACT DETAILS

Office: Lawson Hall 3226

Email: kgervai2@uwo.ca

Office Hours: by appointment, or just drop in

CLASS TIMES

Monday, Wednesday, Friday; 10:30-11:30, STVH 1119

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Our topic this semester will be Catullus. This course is designed to introduce you to reading Latin poetry in its original, unedited form. You will continue using Latin lexica (dictionaries) and grammars to assist in your reading, and you will also continue to examine Latin texts as works of literature. This will be many students' first exposure to Latin poetry, and thus we will examine Latin scansion and meter as well as grammar and syntax. Throughout the term we will read extended selections from Catullus' poems. You will be assigned a portion of the text to read before each class and will be asked to translate passages in class. As we proceed, we will discuss details of the grammar and syntax as well as the style and content of the text and its context. I will ask more experienced students (4903B/9200B) to complete additional Latin readings and get a firmer grasp on the nuances of the text and its various meanings.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of this course I expect you will have gained or improved: an advanced ability to understand and translate Latin poetry; knowledge of various issues important to modern Latin literary criticism; mastery of Latin grammar and syntax; an increased Latin vocabulary; familiarity with Latin lexica, grammars, and commentaries; improved English grammar and vocabulary; an understanding of Latin meter and scansion.

REQUIRED TEXT

I have ordered the following required text for the UWO bookstore. You may obtain this text however you wish, but it is your responsibility to get it. Although there are several choices for editions, commentaries, and even translations of Catullus (some of which we may access during this course), I feel that Garrison's commentary will be the most helpful to the most students.

D.H. Garrison. *The Student's Catullus*. Fourth edition. University of Oklahoma Press. 2012. ISBN: 9780806142326.

****Excerpts from Horace's *Odes* and Virgil's *Georgics* will be provided to you.****

RECOMMENDED TEXTS

I have ordered the following two recommended texts for the UWO bookstore. Although you may find them to be helpful, they are NOT mandatory. In upper-year Latin it is essential that you have access to a dictionary and grammar (the resources in *Wheelock's* are not sufficient). The dictionary and grammar below are excellent, but there are other options, most of which are freely available in the library or online (I will discuss these at the beginning of the course).

D. P Simpson. *Cassell's Standard Latin Dictionary*. Webster's New World. 1977. ISBN: 0025225804

J. H. Allen and J. B. Greenough. *Allen and Greenough's New Latin Grammar*. Focus Publishing. 2001. ISBN: 1585100277

ASSESSMENT

The acquisition of foreign languages is largely dependent on reinforcement and repetition. For this reason class attendance and participation are required. It is also vital that you read and reread texts in order to internalize the vocabulary used, to absorb the full meaning of the text, and to reinforce points of grammar and syntax. Therefore, we will have two tests and a final exam in this course. The tests and exams for Latin 3200B, 4903B, and 9200B students will be different: students in 4903B and 9200B will be responsible for additional material and held to a slightly higher standard. Student progress will be assessed as follows:

- 15% Attendance, preparation and participation
- 25% Test 1 (Mon. Feb. 5, 2018 [tentative])
- 25% Test 2 (Wed. Mar. 14, 2018 [tentative])
- 35% Final exam (scheduled by the Registrar)

CAN I HELP?

It's important to me that you meet your goals in this course, and I'm eager to help either in or out of class with any academic matters. Moreover, I'm especially aware that there are many challenges (physical, cognitive, emotional, or personal) that can prevent students from performing to their full potential. In some cases, I may be able to make accommodations; in some cases, Services for Students with Disabilities (<http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/>) can help. No matter how big or small the problem, the sooner you speak to me (or the appropriate person), the more likely it is that we'll be able to find a good solution.

NOTE FROM THE DEAN OF ARTS and HUMANITIES: You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that you have not taken an antirequisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as basis of appeal. If you are not eligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time, and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. These decisions cannot be appealed.

PLAGIARISM: Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage of text from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

POLICY ON ACCOMMODATION FOR MEDICAL ILLNESS:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf

(downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC):

https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_document.pdf).

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Office of the Dean of their home faculty and provide documentation.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION CANNOT BE GRANTED BY THE INSTRUCTOR OR DEPARTMENT.

UWO ACCESSIBILITY POLICY: Western has many services and programs that support the personal, physical, social and academic needs of students with disabilities. For more information and links to these services: <http://accessibility.uwo.ca/>

MENTAL HEALTH: Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health @ Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Lecture	Date	In-class translation [654 lines]	4903 readings (303 lines)
1	Monday, January 8	Introduction	
2	Wednesday, January 10	Scansion	
3	Friday, January 12	Poems 1, 2.1-10 [20]	
4	Monday, January 15	3 [18]	
5	Wednesday, January 17	5, 7 [25]	
6	Friday, January 19	48, 16 [20]	
7	Monday, January 22	15 [19]	
8	Wednesday, January 24	9, Horace, <i>Odes</i> 1.36.1-9 [20]	
9	Friday, January 26	8 [19] (R. Pogorzelski)	Catul. 63.1-67
10	Monday, January 29	51, Horace, <i>Odes</i> 1.13.1-7 [23]	
11	Wednesday, January 31	27, 31 [21]	
12	Friday, February 2	49, 58a [12]	
13	Monday, February 5	TEST 1	
14	Wednesday, February 7	85-88 [20]	
15	Friday, February 9	89-91 [22]	68-93, Verg. <i>G.</i> 4.315-56
16	Monday, February 12	92, 101 [14]	
17	Wednesday, February 14	Poem 64, lines 1-15 [15]	
18	Friday, February 16	16-33 [18]	
	Mon–Fri, February 19–23	READING WEEK	
19	Monday, February 26	34-57 [24]	
20	Wednesday, February 28	58-75 [18]	
21	Friday, March 2	76-98 [23]	357-424
22	Monday, March 5	99-123 [25]	
23	Wednesday, March 7	124-142 [18]	
24	Friday, March 9	143-163 [21]	
25	Monday, March 12	164-183 [20]	
26	Wednesday, March 14	TEST 2	
27	Friday, March 16	184-204 [21]	425-93
28	Monday, March 19	205-227 [23]	
29	Wednesday, March 21	228-250 [23]	
30	Friday, March 23	251-273 [23]	
31	Monday, March 26	274-297 [24]	
32	Wednesday, March 28	298-319 [22]	
	Friday, March 30	GOOD FRIDAY	
33	Monday, April 2	320-341 [22]	
34	Wednesday, April 4	342-364 [23]	
35	Friday, April 6	365-386 [22]	
36	Monday, April 9	387-409 [23]	494-558
37	Wednesday, April 11	Review	