



AP Latin Syllabus

Course Details

Course Code: 367700AW

Subject: Latin

Required Prerequisites: Successful completion of Latin 3

Suggested Prerequisites: Successful completion of Latin 3 with a B or higher

Recommended Grade Levels: 10th - 12th

Duration: Yearlong

Course Availability: A listing of when this course is offered in the current school year can be found on the [VirtualSC Current Course Offerings page](#) (opens in a new window).

Class Times: This course has scheduled instructional meetings. Information on scheduled meetings for each course is communicated by the teacher. Recordings of these meetings will be available for students unable to attend. Students should expect to spend 7-9 hours a week working on this course independently, in addition to any live meetings, and are expected to meet the deadlines posted in the course pacing guide.

Textbooks: The following are required reading:

- *College Caesar: Latin Text with Facing Vocabulary and Commentary*. Geoffrey Steadman.
- *Vergil's Aeneid*. B. Weiden Boyd, ed. Second edition. Wauconda, IL: Bolchazy-Carducci, 2002.
- *The Aeneid of Virgil*. R. Fitzgerald, trans. New York: Random House, 1990.
- Apollodorus. "Epitome of the Trojan War." (on the web)
- Homer. *Iliad* and *Odyssey*, selected readings. (handout)
- Davis, S. "Teaching Students to Write Critical Essays on Latin Poetry." *Classical Journal* 85 (1990): 133-38.
- Quinn, S., ed. *Why Vergil?: A Collection of Interpretations*. Wauconda, IL: Bolchazy-Carducci, 2000.
- Tatum, W. Jeffrey. *Always I am Caesar*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing, 2008.
- Taylor, Lily Ross. *Party Politics in the Age of Caesar*. Berkeley: University of

California Press, 1961.

Required Course Materials: None

Outside Websites: A list of links to websites and online textbooks used in this course can be found here: [VSC Course Links Document Folder \(opens in a new window\)](#). Students will need to be able to access all of these links to access all course materials.

Final Exam: Students in this course take a VirtualSC final exam **AND** an Advanced Placement (AP) exam. Details on scheduling and taking final exams can be found on the [Final Exam Page](#) (opens in a new window) of the VirtualSC webpage. Students who do not wish to take the AP examination should opt to take Latin 4 Honors instead of AP

Course Description

This is a college-level course. It is designed to prepare students for the AP Latin examination, with emphasis on Caesar's *Gallic War* and Vergil's *Aeneid*. Students are expected to be familiar with the entire content of the *Gallic War* and the *Aeneid* in translation and the sections of the *Gallic War* and *Aeneid* in Latin as required by the College Board's [AP Latin Course and Exam Description](#), as well as applicable passages in other related authors such as Homer or Cicero. The course focuses upon the following:

1. Accurate, literal, and idiomatic translation, reading aloud, and weekly demonstrations of comprehension of the original Latin of the syllabus-based sections of *Gallic War* and *Aeneid*, additional works from both Vergil and Caesar, and other Latin authors at sight;
2. Analysis and interpretation of themes, context, and images in the *Gallic War* and the *Aeneid* as well as those found in related Latin texts;
3. Scansion of dactylic hexameter on a weekly basis;
4. Identification, analysis, appropriate use of terminology for elements of literary style and grammatical and syntactical constructions;
5. Development of analytical essay writing;
6. The political, economic, social and cultural background pertaining to the history of the Late Republic and the Age of Augustus (100 B.C. to A.D. 14).

Scope and Sequence

Class and Home Work:

The majority of this course is spent translating Caesar's *Gallic War* and Vergil's

Aeneid from the original Latin. To complete the AP syllabus, we must cover approximately 40-60 lines of the Latin text per week. Homework assignments therefore mostly consist of a nightly preparation of the next day's translation. All homework translations should be rendered from Latin into English as literally as possible, i.e., with attention paid to tense, mood, voice, person and number of verbs; case with nouns, adjectives, and pronouns; syntactical constructions, etc. Students should expect to spend a minimum of one-half hour per day on homework. Students are graded on the completion and accuracy of homework assignments. Missing one day of homework can jeopardize the score on the AP exam. All homework is due before the beginning of the class meeting. Late homework is not accepted. Homework will be discussed either in Blackboard Collaborate (BBC) sessions, on the discussion forum threads, or on Skype.

Approximately once every two weeks students are required to write a practice essay on the types of prompts seen on the free-response portion of the AP exam, as well as prompts from past exams.

One day per week will be devoted to a *Practicum*, during which we will discuss historical background, on-going themes in both works, the makeup of the AP exam, strategies for the exam, scansion of poetry, sight-reading, articles and other readings, and the like. Topics for the weekly *Practicum* are listed in the schedule below and correspond to instructional media or synchronous live discussion. Discussions are required and take place via BBC, discussion forum, and Skype.

N.B. Students are expected to be prepared to translate the day's Latin (without using a written translation) when called upon to do so in the weekly BBC session or on the daily Skype, in order to ensure that they have worked through the Latin text twice. Using a written translation during live meetings results in a loss of participation points. The student should also be prepared to explain any grammatical or syntactical structures in the day's translation, as well as elements of literary style, grammatical and syntactical structures, metrics, and cultural context, and to discuss all reading assignments including articles and those sections of the *Aeneid* and *Gallic War* read in English as background for the syllabus-based sections. On occasion, students will be assigned to teach the entire day's passage (10-15 lines) to the rest of the class, including grammar, syntax, elements of literary style, metrics, and context, via BBC.

Assessments:

1. Quizzes are given on a regular basis to insure that students are keeping up with the work. A quiz on vocabulary is given every week. Other quizzes are given on grammar, syntax, Roman history, and literal translations of sight passages, to prepare for the multiple-choice portion of the AP Exam.
2. Tests for the course follow the format of the AP exam and occur approximately every

2 weeks. We focus primarily on free-response, translation and essay questions (50% of the AP exam), but we also spend time preparing for the multiple-choice portion of the exam (50%). Students are tested on their knowledge of each authors' historical context, the entire content of the *Gallic War* and the *Aeneid*, elements of literary style, scansion, and other authors typically encountered in the multiple-choice portion of the AP exam, including Catullus, Cicero, Tibullus, Martial, Pliny the Younger, Livy, and Ovid. Unless otherwise noted, tests cover *all* lines read up to the date of the test.

3. Sight-Reading of Latin passages chosen by the teacher will take place once each week either as homework or via BBC or Skype, accompanied by questions regarding content, grammar, syntax, and metrics as applicable.

Participation:

Class participation makes up a considerable portion of the course grade. Students are expected to actively participate in every class and online discussions on BBC, discussion forum, and Skype. Students are expected to come to class discussions prepared, having completed all homework assignments. They are expected to participate willingly and appropriately in discussions and in-class translations, whether syllabus-based or sight. We have a weekly discussion forum and an on-going Skype chat where students are expected to post their questions and comments about their homework or other aspects of the course. Students are asked to read their Latin aloud before translating, and to give short, written or oral summaries in Latin of requested portions of the syllabus-based sections of the *Aeneid* and *Gallic War* on a weekly basis to demonstrate comprehension of the Latin.

Students will be sent a full list of assignments and their due dates at the beginning of the course.

Current pacing guides for this course can be found on the [Current Course Offerings page](#) (opens in a new window) on the VirtualSC website.

Course Grades

The final grade in this course results from the following:

- Coursework: 80%
- Final Exam: 20%

Course Work is broken down in the following percentages

- Tests 50%
- Quizzes 15%
- Homework 15%
- Participation 20%

VirtualSC Details

Information on VirtualSC student guidelines, policies and technology requirements can be found in the [VirtualSC Student Support Portal \(opens in a new window\)](#).