

Introductory Latin

Latin1000-002, 2025-2026

Instructor: Dr. Jonathan Vickers

Course Location: see OWL

Course Times: see OWL

E-mail: jvicker6@uwo.ca

Office: Lawson 3205

Office Hours: By appointment



Fresco with woman holding writing implements. Pompeii, ca. AD 50.

Course Description

This course offers an introduction to Latin, the language of the Romans and a common tongue in the medieval period for religion, business, learned discourse, diplomacy, and more. Latin 1000 is meant for students with little or no previous experience with the language. Emphasis is placed on acquiring 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*.

Textbook

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>)

****Must use the seventh edition!**

Course Delivery

This course will be taught in person. Our course OWL site will be used for posting homework assignments, supplementary material, and course announcements. Please use your UWO email address for personal communication with the instructor (and this is how I will contact you, too).

If students need assistance with the course OWL site, they can seek support on the [OWL Brightspace Help](#) page. Alternatively, they can contact the Western Technology Services Helpdesk. They can be contacted by phone at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800. The instructor is not able to assist with technological difficulties.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, you will be well on your way toward reading and translating Latin texts. You will gain an elementary knowledge of the grammar, syntax, and vocabulary of the language

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as we progress through the first half of our course textbook, in preparation for advanced Latin study. 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.

Evaluation

Learning any language requires regular practice. You must routinely review and reinforce what you have learned as you build a foundation for constantly-developing language skills. Latin is no exception, and part of your assessment is designed to support this aspect of your language acquisition. Weekly quizzes and assignments will give you the opportunity to engage with material (and solidify your learning) before we proceed to the next topic.

Because language learning requires active engagement, you are expected to be present and prepared for class every day. This means completing homework, discussing that work, and participating in class activities. Regular attendance and preparation will lead to success in mastering Latin.

20%	Regular quizzes, usually every week (lowest 4 of the 18 quizzes will be dropped)
10%	Attendance, preparation, participation, homework completion (graded every class; lowest 4 classes will be dropped)
40%	In-class tests (4 tests at 10% each) Oct. 6, Nov. 17, Jan. 26, Mar. 9.
30%	Final exam (scheduled by Registrar's Office)

Further Information on Grade Components:

1. Quizzes: 20%

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. A student's lowest grade will be dropped (18 quizzes – 4 = 14 quizzes at ~1.43% per quiz).

2. Participation, Homework, Preparation, Attendance: 10%

There will be regular homework assignments, focusing on form identification, paradigms, vocabulary, translation, comprehension, composition, sight reading, etc. Although homework is not turned in for grading, we will take up and discuss homework every week; your preparedness to do so is a major part of this grade component. Information on upcoming assignments will be posted on OWL the preceding week. For classes in which we are not discussing homework assignments, students will be evaluated on their attendance, and participation in discussions or activities. This grading component is evaluated after *every class*.

3. In-class tests: four tests at 10% each. **October 6, November 17, January 26, March 9.**

Four 50-minute long tests, held during our scheduled class time: Test 1 will cover all material since the start of the year, Test 2 will emphasize material since Test 1, Test 3 will emphasize material since Test 2, etc. Tests may include grammar, vocabulary, parsing, translation, comprehension, composition, sight reading, etc. Mid-year tests are *in-person*. No aids are permitted. No electronic devices of any kind (including calculators, cell phones, smart watches, etc.) are permitted.

4. Final Exam (cumulative): 30%

The final exam will test your knowledge of all areas of Latin covered this year, and may include grammar, vocabulary, parsing, translation, comprehension, composition, sight reading, etc. The final exam is *in-person*. No aids are permitted. No electronic devices of any kind (including calculators, cell phones, smart watches, etc.) are permitted.

*Flexibility Statement: For all categories in which the lowest scores of an assessment will be dropped (i.e., quizzes, participation), the instructor reserves the right to deny academic consideration for these missed elements. In other words, there are no make-up quizzes, homework assignments, or participation marks.

Statement on the Use of Generative AI

For quizzes, tests, in-class work, and the final exam, students may not use any digital tools, including any artificial intelligence tools. For other course evaluations (including homework), or for studying, students may use any tools they deem helpful.

That said, generative AI is a poor replacement for exercising your own mind...and this is *especially true for a language class!*

Course Schedule

O-Week (Sept. 5): Introductions

Week 1 (Sept. 8-12): Chapter 1

Week 2 (Sept. 15-19): Quiz 1. Chapter 2

Week 3 (Sept. 22-26): Quiz 2. Chapter 3

Week 4 (Sept. 29-Oct. 3): Quiz 3. Chapter 4

Week 5 (Oct. 6-10): **Test 1 (Oct. 6).** Chapter 5

Week 6 (Oct. 13-17): No class Oct. 13 (Thanksgiving). Quiz 4. Chapter 6.

Week 7 (Oct. 20-24): Quiz 5. Chapter 7

Week 8 (Oct. 27-31): Quiz 6. Chapter 8

Week 9: (Nov. 3-7): Reading Week. No class.

Week 10 (Nov. 10-14): Quiz 7. Chapter 9

Week 11 (Nov. 17-21): **Test 2 (Nov. 17)** Chapter 10

Week 12 (Nov. 24-28): Quiz 8. Chapter 11

Week 13 (Dec. 1-5): Quiz 9. Chapter 12

Week 14 (Dec. 8): **No class.**

Winter Break (No December Exam!)

Week 15 (Jan. 5-9): Chapter 13

Week 16 (Jan. 12-16): Quiz 10. Chapter 14 + 15

Week 17 (Jan. 19-23): Quiz 11. Chapter 16

Week 18 (Jan. 26-30): **Test 3 (Jan. 26).** Chapter 17

Week 19 (Feb. 2-6): Quiz 12. Chapter 18

Week 20 (Feb. 9-13): Quiz 13. Chapter 19

Week 21 (Feb. 16-20): Reading Week. No class.

Week 22 (Feb. 23-27): Quiz 14. Chapter 20

Week 23 (Mar. 2-6): Quiz 15. Chapter 21

Week 24 (Mar. 9-13): **Test 4 (Mar. 9).** Chapter 22

Week 25 (Mar. 16-20): Quiz 16. Chapter 23

Week 26 (Mar. 23-27): Quiz 17. Chapter 24

Week 27 (Mar. 30- Apr. 3): No class Apr. 3 (Good Friday). Quiz 18. Chapter 25

Week 28 (Apr. 6-8): Exam Review

Cumulative Final Exam during Examination Period

N.B. This schedule is subject to revision if necessary

University Policies

Academic Consideration: Students should become familiar with the *University Policy on Academic Consideration – Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs* posted on the Academic Calendar:

https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/academic_consideration_Sep24.pdf

Academic Offences: Scholastic offences are taken seriously, and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, here:

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<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academicpolicies/appeals/scholasticdisciplineundergrad.pdf>.

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.

Religious Accommodation requests for final exams should be submitted via the Student Absence Portal.

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”
https://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible_education/index.html

Special Examinations: A Special Examination is any examination other than the regular examination, and it may be offered only with the permission of the Dean of the Faculty in which the student is registered, in consultation with the instructor and Department Chair. Permission to write a Special Examination may be given on the basis of compassionate or medical grounds with appropriate supporting documents. To provide an opportunity for students to recover from the circumstances resulting in a Special Examination, the University has implemented Special Examinations dates. These dates as well as other important information about examinations and academic standing can be found [here](#).

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>

Mental Health Support: Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western (<https://uwo.ca/health/>) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

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 is going through or has gone through these traumatic events. If you are experiencing or have experienced GBSV (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at the following website:

<https://www.uwo.ca/health/studentsupport/survivorsupport/get-help.html>. To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca.

Learning Development and Success: Counsellors at the Learning Development and Success Centre <https://learning.uwo.ca> 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.

USC: Additional student-run support services are offered by the USC, <https://westernusc.ca/services/>.

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