

CLAL 211 Intermediate Latin

Fall Semester 2019



Course Instructor: Dr. Eleni Fassa

Email: efassa@yahoo.com

Hours available: M/W 14.00-15.00

(Faculty Room)

Phone: 6976 818252

Class Meetings: Monday/Wednesday, 17:15-18:50

Plautus, *Mostellaria* (Copy of the original text will be provided in class)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Plautus has been characterized as the most successful comic poets in the ancient world, while his *Mostellaria* has been regarded as one of the masterpieces of Roman comedy. From the Hellenistic period up to modern times it has been widely read and commented upon, and it has enjoyed tremendous popularity, fascinating its readers for centuries.

The primary aim of this course is to approach the *Mostellaria* from a language perspective. We will recognize language structures, analyze the grammatical and syntactical forms used in simple and complex sentences and enrich our vocabulary, while practicing and advancing our skills in translation from Latin into fluent English. Emphasis will also be given on reviewing core elements of Latin grammar and syntax but also on improving and expanding our existing knowledge.

A complementary objective of the course is to study the *Mostellaria* in its historical context. At CYA we view contextualization as fundamental in the process of thoroughly understanding and analyzing ancient literature. The students, aided by their instructor, will evaluate elements of the text as expressions and representations of cultural, social and historical features of the Roman world. We will explain and discuss the manifold information on practices, values and attitudes of republican Rome, which is embedded in the text, thus exploring the relationship, but also the interdependence, between language and culture.



Upon successful completion of the course students will be able to:

- Read, translate and analyze into fluent English texts of original Latin
- Access and evaluate appropriate resources, e.g. dictionaries, word lists, commentaries, grammar and syntax references, websites
- Utilize the acquired knowledge in order to proceed to independent translation of phrases and small passages
- Explain and discuss key features of the Roman world as learned through the study of language

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

One year of Latin



In this course you will have weekly quizzes after the completion of each book chapter, a midterm and the final exam. Quizzes will test your skills in grammar, syntax and translation of phrases and/or small passages from ancient Greek into English and vice versa. In the midterm and final exams you will be asked to demonstrate your knowledge in a series of more composite exercises (translation, prose composition, syntax and vocabulary)

GRADING & EVALUATION	GRADING SCALE				
35% Final	A+ 100-98	B+ 89-87	C+ 79-77	D+ 69-67	F 59-
30% Midterm	A 97-93	B 86-83	C 76-73	D 66-63	
25% Quiz	A- 92-90	B- 82-80	C- 72-70	D- 62-60	
10% Participation-Attendance					

CLASS PARTICIPATION

You are expected to participate in class, to speak up, to ask questions and contribute to the discussions. Collaborative discourse is a vital element of this course and thus you are encouraged to be curious, to have different interpretations and, of course, share your thoughts. Your active presence in classroom will be graded.

ATTENDANCE
Class attendance is required. Our course is designed to promote teamwork; one of its methodological tools is to create a small community between the co-students and the instructor who all strive to achieve a specific goal, while also having fun. Consequently your attendance is essential to the educational objectives of this course. Absences are recorded and have consequences. Illness or other such compelling reasons which result in absences should be reported immediately in the Student Affairs Office.

POLICY ON ORIGINAL WORK

Unless otherwise specified, all submitted work must be your own, original work. Any excerpts from the work of others must be clearly identified as a quotation, and a proper citation provided. (Check Student handbook, pg 9)

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

If you are a registered (with your home institution) student with a disability and you are entitled to learning accommodation, please inform the Director of Academic Affairs and make sure that your school forwards the necessary documentation.

Week	Day/Date	Assignment	Other Events
1	Sept 9-11		Sep 18-21 Field Trip Crete
2	Sept 23-25	Quiz 1 (Sept 25)	
3	Sept 30-Oct 2		
4	Oct 7-9	Quiz 2 (Oct 7)	
5	Oct 14-16	Quiz 3 (Oct 16)	
6	Oct 21-23	Midterm Exam (Oct 23)	
7	Oct 28-30		Nov 5-9 Field Trip Peloponnese
8	Nov 11-13	Quiz 4 (Nov 11)	
9	Nov 18-20	Quiz 5 (Nov 20)	
10	Dec 2-4		
11	Dec 9-11	Quiz 6 (Dec 9)	
12	Dec 16-18	Finals	

Final Exam: Time TBA

N.B. Course schedule, in terms of subjects and readings, may be subject to change to benefit student learning

What do I need to bring in this class?

Your **original Latin text**, a **notebook** and a **pen/pencil**.

Since we will be using grammar and syntax charts often, also bring some **color markers!** It has been shown that the use of colors triggers memory and it can improve your reading and learning comprehension!

A **file folder** will prove to be really useful, so that you organize better your notes, assignments and the additional material that I will distribute in class. By keeping organized, you will increase highly your productivity for this class: you will save time looking for things and you will feel more confident!

Most importantly! Come in class with a positive mood and a mind eager to learn!
See each class as a unique chance to discover more, to practice your already acquired knowledge and to communicate with your colleagues and your instructor!

Can I use electronic devices in class?

Recent studies have demonstrated that **the use of electronic devices might hamper the learning pace for a large number of students and they have related it to poorer class performance.** Moreover, research suggests that **note-taking on laptops or other devices is less effective than when done by hand.** Actually, even having our cell phones on the table in front of us might diminish our learning abilities!

This course encourages active learning and active student engagement via non-electronic means (e.g. games, student presentations and co-operative techniques) and so the use of mobile phones, tablets, laptops and eBooks is not permitted during class.



What is the homework for this course?

ASSIGNMENTS

Your main assignment for each class will be the preparation of the translation assigned. Preparing a translation demands **persistent** and **determined effort**. So be prepared! Especially in the first weeks, producing your own translation will be a challenging process that will take up much of your time. However, as you practice, you will realize that many words are repeated; each author has his/her own idiolect which you will get used to. Keep in mind that preparing a translation is part of your learning, so don't allow "online interferences" in this process. **Look ahead: when you will have achieved your goal you will find it really rewarding!**

REVIEWING

As we go on reading the *Mostellaria* we will come across grammatical and syntactical structures that you might have already discussed in your first year(s) of learning Latin. We will of course comment on them but we will also try to review the major topics of Latin grammar and syntax based on your needs, wishes and preferences. Accordingly, additional non-graded exercises will be assigned so that you test your skills.

Practice makes Perfect!

Plan to spend **10 hours per week** on average for this class. Try to devote some time **every day** to this course. Your everyday practice is important not only for the progress of each one of you individually but also so that you tune in with the rest of the learning team.



The key to the success for this course is **PARTICIPATION**. Participation can actually take many different forms:



feel inspired and inspire others!

Doing your homework will boost your participation: as you will see, many times the assigned exercises serve as the basis for the next day's discussion; if you have prepared them, you will feel more confident and more eager to participate.

Latin is an old discipline that needs fresh approaches! **Your perspective is valuable!**

3 Ways to get the most out of this class!

- 1** Read the Latin aloud as often as your living/studying condition allows
- 2** Make Latin part of your daily routine!
Do an assignment, even a small one, every day!
- 3** Form a study group and meet up with other students to prepare for class