

CLAL 311 | Advanced Latin I: Augustan Literature Fall 2024

INSTRUCTOR: DEMETRIOS KRITSOTAKIS

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Course Description

This course is intended to introduce the student to the work of some of the most representative authors of Augustan Rome. We will read selections of works in prose and verse produced in the period of the late Republic and early Principate under Augustus. Our reading material will include (but not be limited to) Horace, Ovid, and Livy among others. Their lives and careers coincided with Rome's exit from a series of disastrous civil wars and its transition from a republic to an empire. All the authors under discussion lived in an era when Rome was redefining itself in a political dialog dominated by the figure of Augustus. Some of them were befriended by the palace and maintained long-lasting relationships that shaped both their lives and works.

In this class we will focus on improving your reading skills and at the same time expanding your knowledge of the grammar and syntax of the language. Discussion and analysis of the texts, exams in writing, and sight-reading will be important components of the course. We will also examine each author's language and style, and, when necessary, meter. In addition, you will be asked to critically approach and comment on select articles of modern scholarship.

Aspects pertaining to the place of each work in the historical context will also be addressed: how does the work relate to the events of the period during which it was written, what was its purpose, does it reflect the values of the society and its people, what values are those, and so on.

Learning Goals

This course will primarily teach students to:

- Improve their reading of a known text
- Be comfortable with sight reading
- Recognize grammatical forms
- Analyze the syntax of simple and complex sentences
- Examine the language and dialect features of the ancient text
- Place the text in its historical and cultural context
- Recognize the role of the text in the history of Greece and the literature produced there
- Read and review modern scholarship and show where they stand with respect to it
- Write an academic paper using both ancient sources and modern scholarship

Course Requirements and Assessment

CYA Attendance Policy

Latin is a difficult language to master and CYA regards attendance in class and on-site (in Athens or during field study trips) as essential, so attendance at all scheduled meetings is required. All absences are recorded and have consequences that may affect your grade.

Class Contribution 15% – Class Contribution includes physical and mental presence in the classroom, arriving on time, preparation, participation in class discussions. Class contribution is one of the most important factors for determining your grade for the semester. You are expected to have all assignments completed (translation, review of modern scholarship, and so on) before you come to class.

Try to allow about 2-2.30 hours per night for homework. The more study time put in early on, the less pain and suffering later on. You are encouraged to consult with the instructor on all matters pertaining to the course: difficulties in mastering the language and grammar, complications in proceeding through the materials of the course. Do not be afraid to ask questions, volunteer to translate or answer questions.

Quizzes 20% – There will be six quizzes. Each quiz will cover the previous reading assignment translated in class. It will consist of translation (one passage, ca. 10 lines long), grammar and syntax exercises. The lowest quiz will be dropped.

Midterm Exam 25% – This exam will consist of the translation of 4 out of 5 passages already discussed in class, 15 lines long each; the sight translation of a short passage, for which some vocabulary will be given; and grammar and syntax questions.

Research Paper 30% – Students are expected to write one research paper of about 3000 words (Times New Roman, size 12, double-spaced) excluding bibliography. Students can choose their own topic or select one in discussion with the instructor. Individual titles and bibliography will be agreed after consultation. You are encouraged to discuss research topics with the instructor by **late September** (at the very latest).

The paper will be graded on:

- originality of thought
- critical analysis of an aspect or aspects of the work
- clarity of argument and structure
- variety of evidence and bibliography used

Paper Presentation 10% – Students are also expected to make an oral presentation of their topic in class. That should not be more than 15 minutes long, and you should be ready to answer questions and discuss issues pertaining to your topic with the instructor and your colleagues.

Those who wish to turn in rough drafts of their papers for consultation are welcomed to do so by **Friday, December 6**.

The deadline for the submission of the final research paper is **Friday, December 20**.

Policy on Assignments and Make-up Work

I will accept no late assignments or make-up exams except for valid excuses that will be communicated to me in advance. If you are unable to come to class, please let me know beforehand.

Please note: in the name of fairness to all students, there will be no extra points awarded, even if you are very close to a higher letter grade.

CYA Policies and Regulations

Academic Accommodations

Students are required to submit an official letter from the office at their school that handles academic accommodations (generally the Office of Disability Services), or to have that office send a letter. Students who have submitted such a letter to CYA should also talk to their professors individually to discuss how these accommodations will work in each specific course.

ePolicy on Original Work

Plagiarism is literary theft. As such, it is a serious offense which will not be tolerated either at your home institution or at CYA. Plagiarism on an examination or in a paper will result in an F for the course. You must cite the author of any and all ideas that you use that is neither common knowledge nor your own idea. If you are in doubt, it is safest to cite the source. Your work should be original and reflect your own ideas and thoughts. If you are unsure about what counts as original work, please consult your professor and check the Student Handbook.

Use of Laptops

In-class or onsite use of laptops and other devices is permitted if this facilitates course-related activities such as note-taking, looking up references, etc. Laptop or other device privileges will be suspended if devices are not used for class-related work.

N.B. The use of cell phones is prohibited during class time.

Upgrade to 400-level course

Courses can be upgraded to a 400-level. This constitutes usually 25% additional work on the part of the student. The option to upgrade opens the second week of classes. If you are interested in this option, please talk to your professor.

Required Readings

Selected works in prose and verse (copies of the original texts will be provided in class)

Recommended Texts

Allen J.H. & Greenough J.B., *New Latin Grammar for Schools and Colleges*, Boston; New York 1931

Glare P.G.W., *Oxford Latin Dictionary*, Oxford; New York 1968

Lewis C.T., *An Elementary Latin Dictionary*, Oxford 1992 (Library and at <http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/>)

Fall 2024 Tentative Schedule

Day #	Date/Day	Topic / Readings / Assignments Due / Place (if applicable)
	Sep 5-7	Field Study Delphi and Ancient Olympia
1	Sep 9	
2	Sep 11	
3	Sep 16	
	Sep 18-21	Field Study Crete
4	Sep 23	Quiz 1
5	Sep 25	
6	Sep 30	Quiz 2
7	Oct 2	
8	Oct 7	
9	Oct 9	Quiz 3
10	Oct 14	
11	Oct 16	Quiz 4
12	Oct 21	
13	Oct 23	Midterm Exam
	Oct 25-Nov 3	Fall Break
14	Nov 4	
15	Nov 6	
16	Nov 11	
	Nov 12-15	Field Study Peloponnese
17	Nov 18	
18	Nov 20	Paper Presentation
19	Nov 25	
20	Nov 27	Quiz 5
21	Dec 2	
22	Dec 4	Quiz 6
23	Dec 9	
24	Dec 11	
FEW	Dec 20	Deadline for Submission of Final Paper