

## CLAL 212 | Intermediate Latin II Spring Semester

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### Required Text

Cicero, a selection of the Political Orations (*In Catilinam I, II, III; De imperio Cn. Pompei*) (copies of the original texts will be provided in class)

### Course Description

Marcus Tullius Cicero is the greatest orator of the Roman world. His lifespan (106-43 BCE) covers one of the most fascinating centuries of the Roman Republic, the first century BCE. This is the century of successive civil wars, fierce political struggles in the senate, in the assemblies and in the provinces; it is a century of social upheaval, massive battles and huge massacres, which finally led to the collapse of the Republic and the emergence of the Principate. Cicero, a *homo novus*, that is, a member of the political elite not by birth but due to his exceptional abilities, was one of the major players during this period of unprecedented political competition. Being a skillful orator he could easily persuade the judges, his fellow senators and the Roman people to support his cases; the construction of his arguments was studied already in antiquity and his language and style has been admired throughout the centuries.

The primary aim of this course is to approach Cicero's works from a language perspective. The students will recognize language structures, they will analyze the grammatical and syntactical forms used in simple and complex sentences and they will enrich their vocabulary, while practicing and advancing their 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 their existing knowledge.

A complementary objective of the course is to study Cicero's political orations in their 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 the Roman Republic, which are embedded in the text, thus exploring the relationship, but also the interdependence, between language and culture.

### Learning Objectives:

Upon successful completion of this 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

### Tests and Exams

In this course you will have six quizzes, the midterm and the final exam. Quizzes will test your skills in translation, grammar and syntax. The quiz with the lowest grade will be dropped. In both the midterm and the final you will be tested in translation, grammar and syntax (the final exam will be only on the material covered after the midterm).

### Grading and Evaluation

Your grade for this course will be based on the following distribution:

35% Final

30% Midterm

25% Quizzes

10% Participation-Attendance

## Grading Scale:

A+ 100-98	B+ 89-87	C+ 79-77	D+ 69-67	F 59-
A 97-93	B 86-83	C 76-73	D 66-63	
A- 92-90	B- 82-80	C- 72-70	D- 62-60	

## 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.

## 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.

**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.

## Intermediate Latin – Some Frequently Asked Questions

### 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 quite often, don't forget to 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 be useful, so that you organize better your notes, assignments and the additional material that will be distributed in class. By keeping organized, you will increase 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?

The use of mobile phones, tablets, laptops and eBooks is not permitted during 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 your cell phones on the table in front of you might diminish your learning abilities!

### 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 Cicero 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 20 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.

**How can I succeed in this course?**

The key to the success for this course is PARTICIPATION. Participation can actually take many different forms: Ask questions, answer questions, take notes, discuss with the instructor and your fellow students, contribute your ideas and thoughts, co-operate with your fellow students, teach each other, feel inspired and inspire others! Doing your homework will boost your participation: as you will see, many times the assigned assignments 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 glimpse is valuable!

**Communication with the instructor and email policy**

You can meet me during my office hours, or, if this doesn’t work for you, we can arrange meetings at another time. I will answer to your emails during work-hours (Monday through Friday) and within 24 hours from the time that I have received it. If I do not respond within 24 hours, please email me again, because your email was probably lost. On the weekends I will try to check emails but I will respond only to urgent issues.

**3 Ways to get the most out of this class!**

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

**Class Schedule**

Week	Topic / Readings
1	Introduction: Cicero and his world; life and death; works; aspect of Roman oratory; the late Roman republic: major events and the administrative system of the Roman state; Catiline, Cicero and his conspiracy <i>Against Catiline II</i> : Paragraphs 1-2
2	<i>Against Catiline II</i> : Paragraphs 3-6
3	<i>Against Catiline II</i> : Paragraphs 7-10
4	<i>Against Catiline II</i> : Paragraphs 11-13
5	<i>Against Catiline II</i> : Paragraphs 14-18
6	<i>Against Catiline II</i> : Paragraphs 19-22
7	<i>Against Catiline II</i> : Paragraphs 23-27
8	Introduction: Cicero and Pompey; Pompey: life, military and political achievements; relationship with Cicero; piracy in the Mediterranean; the expansion of the Roman Republic <i>De Imperio</i> : Paragraphs 1-2
9	<i>De Imperio</i> : Paragraphs 3-6
10	<i>De Imperio</i> : Paragraphs 7-10
11	<i>De Imperio</i> : Paragraphs 11-14
12	<i>De Imperio</i> : Paragraphs 15-20
13	FINALS

**Final Exam:** TBA

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