

## CLAL 312 | Advanced Latin II: Roman Drama Spring 2025

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### Required Text

A selected work in verse (copies of the original text will be provided in class)

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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/>)

### Course Description

This course is intended to introduce the student to the work of the most important dramatists of Imperial Rome. The main reading will be an individual play to be announced in class. Our theoretical approach will include discussion of the main categories of Roman tragedy, *fabula crepidata* and *fabula praetexta*; the history of Roman Drama, its main representatives; and, also, the Greek (Classical and Hellenistic) models. We will also bring into discussion excerpts from other Roman tragedies, and, if existent, passages from the Greek originals. At the same time, we will take into consideration the historical and cultural context of our play. Aspects pertaining to the place of the work in its 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 Objectives

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, meter, 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 Rome and the literature produced there
- Read and review modern scholarship and show where they stand with respect to it

### Course Requirements

**Class Contribution** – Class Contribution includes physical and mental presence in the classroom, arriving on time, preparation, and 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.

Latin is a difficult language to master. You are encouraged to consult with the instructor on all matters pertaining to the course: difficulties in mastering the language, complications in proceeding through the materials of the course. Do not be afraid to ask questions, volunteer to read or answer questions.

**Quizzes** – There will be six quizzes, of which you drop the lowest one. Each quiz will cover the previous reading assignment translated in class. It will consist of translation (one passage, ca. 15 lines long) and syntax questions.

**Midterm Exam** – The midterm 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 syntax questions.

**Article Review** – Each student is expected to make an oral presentation of an article or book chapter of modern scholarship. Students will demonstrate their clear understanding of the subject of the article/chapter and the main thesis of its author(s) and at the same time will show, with arguments, where they stand with respect to it. The presentation should be 15-20 minutes long, and you should be ready to answer questions and discuss issues pertaining to your material with the instructor and your colleagues. Articles to choose from for this assignment will be

uploaded on the moodle page of the course after the first week of classes. You are expected to select an article by the end of February.

**Final Project** – For their final assignment, students will be asked to demonstrate their understanding of the myth, which was the basis of the play; the mechanisms of drama composition in the Greco-Roman antiquity; and their own writing skills and creative spirit. Thus, the students will present in writing an alternative ending of the play. The text will be written in English, in verse, in a length of lines that will be determined in class. This is a team work, and students will work and submit their final versions in groups.

Those who wish to turn in rough drafts of their projects for consultation are welcomed to do so by **Friday, May 9**. The deadline for the submission of the final project is **Friday, May 16**.

## Evaluation and Grading

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

Class Contribution 15%

Quizzes 20%

Midterm Exam 25%

Article Review 15%

Final Project 25%

## 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	

**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 Regulations and Accommodations

### Attendance Policy

Latin is a difficult field 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.

### 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.

### ePolicy on Original Work

Unless otherwise specified, all submitted work must be your own original work. Any ideas taken from the work of others must be clearly identified as quotations, paraphrases, summaries, figures etc., and accurate internal citations and/or captions (for visuals) as well as an accompanying bibliography must be provided.

### 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.**

### 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.

**Class Schedule**

Class Day	Day/Date	Topics/ Reading/ Assignments
	Jan 23-25	Field Study: Delphi and Ancient Olympia
1	Jan 28	<i>Introduction</i>
2	Jan 30	
3	Feb 4	
4	Feb 6	
5	Feb 7	<i>Quiz 1</i>
6	Feb 11	
7	Feb 13	<i>Quiz 2</i>
	Feb 14-16	Optional Field Study: Venice, Ravenna
	Feb 18-21	Field Study: Peloponnese
8	Feb 25	
9	Feb 27	<i>Quiz 3</i>
	Mar 3	Clean Monday (National Holiday)
10	Mar 4	
11	Mar 6	<i>Quiz 4</i>
12	Mar 11	
13	Mar 13	<i>Midterm Exam</i>
	Mar 18-22	Field Study: Northern Greece, Thessaloniki
	Mar 25	Greek Independence Day (National Holiday)
14	Mar 27	
15	Mar 28	
16	Apr 1	<i>Quiz 5</i>
17	Apr 3	
	Apr 4-6	Optional Field Study: Rhodes
18	Apr 8	
19	Apr 10	<i>Quiz 6</i>
	Apr 11-21	Spring Break
20	Apr 22	
21	Apr 24	<i>Final Project Presentations</i>
	Apr 25-27	Optional Field Study: Crete
22	Apr 29	
	May 1	May Day (Labor Day) National Holiday
	May 5-6	Student Conference
23	May 6	<i>Article Review Presentations</i>
24	May 8	<i>Article Review Presentations</i>
FEW	May 16	<i>Submission of Final Project</i>

N.B.: **Class schedule**, in terms of subjects and readings, may be subject to change to benefit student learning and in keeping up to date with current research.