

Course Syllabus
Classical Preparatory School
Latin 1
Instructor: Magister Kerry Parsons
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Gymnasium Room 305

Course Description:

Many of us hear Latin referred to as a “dead language.” Although Latin is not spoken today, it is far from a dead language. 70% of English vocabulary is Romance (derived from Latin), therefore learning Latin results in an expanded English vocabulary. Moreover, along with improving English vocabulary, one of the goals of this Latin course is for you to independently translate from Latin into English and vice versa. In this process you will also learn Latin grammar and syntax.

Course Content:

The Latin Noun System

- a noun’s three characteristics
 - number
 - gender
 - case
- “declension”
 - the six cases & their functions

- imperative mood
- subjunctive mood
- infinitive form
- ending
 - number
 - person
 - voice

The Latin Verb System

- a verb’s five characteristics
 - stem
 - tense
 - The Present System
 - The Perfect System
 - mood/form
 - indicative mood

The Latin Adjective System

- (2-1-2) type
- (3 [x]) type

Bringing the Three Systems Together

- Translations

Roman Culture, History, and Civilization

- various topics

Materials:

- 3-subject notebook (a spiral with folders included is recommended)
 - Something to write with (pen or pencil)
 - Dry erase markers and a small eraser (for individual students, not for the classroom)
- A Latin dictionary is optional.

Paper Headings:

You will head all papers on the upper left-hand corner in the following MLA fashion. Below is a model.

Student name:

Teacher: (Magister Parsons)

Class: (Latin 1)

Date:

Assignments/ Homework:

Typically, in-class assignments are to be turned in at the end of class. Homework assignments are due on the next class meeting, unless instructed otherwise. Homework is usually designed to take about 25 minutes. Please let me know if you find that assignments are taking you longer than anticipated as this is an important discussion for us to have.

Late Work:

Late work will not be accepted.

Grading Policy:

- Tests: 40 % (midterms, finals, unit exams)
- Assignments: 20% (classwork, homework)
- Quizzes: 25% (vocabulary, culture, concept checks)
- Participation: 15% (review, bell work, pop quizzes)

A= 90-100 B= 80-89 C= 70-79 D=60-69 F= 0-59

- I do reserve the right to give pop quizzes. Also, keep in mind that many absences will cause you to fall behind, which will therefore negatively affect your grade.

Classroom Rules:

1. Respect for others and yourself
2. Arrive to class prepared
 - a. Part of being prepared is studying at least 15 minutes a day.
3. Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself
 - a. Don't throw/toss things in my classroom.
4. Clean up after yourself
5. Always ask questions and do not be afraid to make mistakes.

Entering the Classroom:

Please enter the room silently. As soon as you enter the classroom you are to take your seat, get out the required books and materials, and follow the directions which are either posted on the board or given by me verbally. In other words, you must enter and be ready to work.

Being Late/Tardy:

Arriving to class after the period has begun without a late pass constitutes your being late. Please also understand that placing your items in my classroom, then you leaving, and then you returning after I have started class constitutes as a tardy. Please refer to the *Upper School Policies and Expectations* for additional details.

Class Participation:

For this class it is highly important to contribute and participate. However, in order to maintain an orderly class environment, it is imperative that you raise your hand if you need to ask a question, respond, or simply make a request and then you must wait to be called on.

Hall Passes:

Once given permission to leave the classroom to go to the nurse, restroom, or office, you must take a hall pass. Please keep the following in mind:

- When out of the classroom, you must always have a pass. The pass indicates your destination. If you arrive at a different destination than intended, you will lose your pass privileges.
- Passes are not used to go to lockers.
- Given that time in class is crucial to learning and academic success, I recommend that you bring water in a closed container and go to the water fountain during passing rather than going during class.
- If you have a medical condition which requires more frequent restroom use or need to go to the nurse for medication, etc., please have your parent/guardian send a note to the front office so that we have documentation of your need and please communicate this important information to your teachers as well.

Dismissal:

Before leaving my classroom, it is expected from each and every student to look around his/her area and make sure that the surrounding area is clean. Once this has been ensured, each student is to be silent and seated. I do not dismiss otherwise, even if that puts you in jeopardy of being tardy.

What if you are absent?

If you are absent, you are responsible for getting any notes and materials you had missed from one of your classmates. There will be a designated location in the classroom where you can collect make-up work. Per the Family Handbook of Classical Prep, if you are absent “make-up work must be completed in the number of days equal to the absence. For instance, if a student misses two days of school, all make-up work must be completed within 2 days.” If you miss a test you are responsible for making arrangements to make it up. If you neglect to make up a test, I will enter a “zero” in the gradebook. Please refer to the *Upper School Policies and Expectations* for additional details.

Monthly Course Calendars

From the *Upper School Policies and Expectations*: “Teachers will provide students with a monthly calendar of assignments, due dates, assessments, and other important information so that students can learn to manage their time wisely, pace out projects, and study for assessments as needed.”

I can provide a paper copy for anyone who would like one. The monthly calendar, though, for all of my Latin courses will exist as Google Calendars on my “My CPS Page” webpage on my “My Teaching Gateway” teaching website. There exists an overall calendar for all my Latin courses, and each course has its own calendar on its own individual webpage. Please refer to the separate sheet where I discuss these webpages in far more detail.

Communication:

I am open to communicating with you and/or your parent/guardian. If you find there is a need for you to reach me, please know that we can communicate via email, set up a phone conference, or meet in person. I will make myself available for the method preferred by you and your parent/guardian. Finally, I will respond to emails within one to two business days.

Classical Preparatory School Academic Dishonesty Policy:

Classical Preparatory School aims to instill within its students ten habits that all contribute to our student’s integrity and character development. This is especially true for academics, so plagiarism and cheating are serious violations of the process of education. Being academically honest includes, but is not limited to, making sure all work that you submit is your own and that in no way do you claim someone else’s work as your own or allow someone to claim your work as his or her own, no matter the assignment. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated by any teacher in any subject as it is unfair to other students in the class who do their own work and constitutes a form of theft of others’ ideas and labor.

Students should be aware that incidents of academic dishonesty also affect a teacher’s ability to write a letter of recommendation for collegiate institutions, scholarships, or potential employment. Academic dishonesty will also result in the removal from leadership positions in student organizations as well as have a potential impact on earning awards and honors based on merit and character.

Please refer to the full Classical Preparatory School Academic Honesty Policy provided to you in your English class for further details.

Finally, please know that the use of translation aides such as *Google Translate* and other translation sources is academic dishonesty, which I will not tolerate. Remember: if someone or **something** else does your work, that is academic dishonesty.

Student Expectations and Tips for Success

1. ***Be Prepared:*** Students are expected to arrive each day with their assignments completed, their materials in hand, and their minds ready to learn.
2. ***Participate:*** Be actively engaged during class, taking notes, listening to the teacher and classmates, and participating in each activity. Being present in class is also critical to your ability to participate, so arrive to class on time and avoid excessive absences.
 - Take notes
 1. Not taking notes or having incomplete notes will leave you unprepared to do your assignments, and the resultant incomplete assignments will lead to a low grade which means you will not do well in my class.

3. **Pay attention:** Be aware of assignments, due dates, and details. Take ownership and responsibility for your learning and success.
 - Ask questions and ask for help
 1. Latin can be hard and my role is not only to teach you but to also help you. I am not a mind reader and it is impossible for me to know if you need clarification unless you communicate that need to me. Please do not hesitate to approach me whenever you need my help.
4. **Complete all assignments:** Each assignment in this course is intentional and meant to help you develop important skills. Students should put forth their best effort on each assignment in order to be successful.
5. **eCheck your grade:** Knowing your grade is important to understanding your performance in this course. You should be checking the portal on a regular basis to stay accurately informed.
6. **Study a little each day:** Learning does not happen overnight. Students must study, read, and review a little each night in order to master concepts and skills.
7. **Be respectful:** You are expected to show courtesy towards your teacher and your classmates at all times through your words and actions. Students should also clean up after themselves, leaving the classroom neater than when they found it.
8. **Follow all school rules, policies, and procedures:** Students are expected to abide by all CPS guidelines while on campus and in classes.

*Nota Bene: I reserve the right to modify the contents of this syllabus. Students will be notified of any change.

Magister Parsons,

I have read the above syllabus as well as shared and reviewed it with my parent/guardian, and I agree to abide by it. If there are parts of the above syllabus with which I don't agree or by which I will not abide, I will discuss those matters with you. I also understand that my parent/guardian's signature below is worth a quarter test grade in my gradebook.

Student's Signature

Date

Magister Parsons,

I have read the above syllabus and reviewed it with my scholar. I know you welcome and encourage all feedback and suggestions and questions, so I have forwarded any of those that I have in either an email, a phone call, or a text.

I also understand that my signature below is worth a quarter test grade in my scholar's gradebook.

Parent/Guardian's Signature

Date

My email address is _____

My cell phone/text number is _____

My preferred method to be contacted: email phone call text