

LAT 506—First Year Latin I  
Unique #33020  
Fall 2009

Instructor: Andrew Howard  
Time: MTWThF 12-1  
Place: WAG 308  
Office Hours: TTh 1-2, F 11-12  
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**Course Texts:**

- F.M. Wheelock, *Wheelock's Latin*, 6<sup>th</sup> ed. revised. Harper Collins, 2005.
- A.H. Groton and J.M. May, *38 Latin Stories*. Bolchazy-Carducci, 2003.
- N.W. Goldman, *English Grammar for Students of Latin*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Olivia and Hill Press, 2004 (optional).

**Course Description:** This course is designed to introduce you to the basics of Latin grammar, syntax, and vocabulary, as presented in our text book, *Wheelock's Latin*, chapters 1-25. In doing so, you'll develop the tools to read and translate classical Latin texts. To that end, the selections from *38 Latin Stories* will supply us with continuous narrative texts that will exercise the knowledge acquired from Wheelock and introduce basic themes of Greco-Roman mythology, history, literature, and culture. Our focus will be on mastering the basic linguistic skills necessary to proceed to LAT507, in which you will complete the survey of Latin grammar and begin to read unadapted Latin texts.

**Assignments, Grading, and Exams:** There will be daily assignments from Wheelock with occasional passages from *38 Latin Stories*. Grades will be based on weekly quizzes (20%), in-class participation and homework (10%), three hour-long exams (15% each, 45% total), and a cumulative final exam (25%). There will be two quizzes per week, usually on Tuesdays and Fridays. The Tuesday quiz will focus on vocabulary and the Friday quiz on grammatical concepts/translation. The lowest three quizzes will be dropped from the final calculation of your grade.

**Make up Tests and Quizzes:** Tests will only be able to be made up in case of a demonstrated medical reason (physician's statement required) or other emergency (as certified by the Dean of Students in the student's college).

**Attendance:** Because of the amount of material that we will be covering, attendance will be a crucial component in learning the material, which is why it is imperative that you come to class. However, you will be allowed three unexcused absences, following which your final grade will drop one percentage

point per unexcused absence. Absences will only be excused for religious holidays, medical reasons (with a letter from Student Health Services or a private physician), or for family emergencies (only when certified by your Dean of Students). If students wish to have an absence excused, documentation must be provided to the instructor within a week of the student's return to class.

**University of Texas Honor Code:** The core values of The University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the university is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community.

**Academic Dishonesty:** Collaboration during tests, use of written notes during tests, or submission of work that is not entirely a student's own will not be tolerated. Any student found guilty of cheating in any way will receive no credit on the assignment/test and will be subject to the University procedures under Appendix C, Section 11 of the General Information bulletin. (<http://www.utexas.edu/student/registrar/catalogs/gi04-05/app/appc11.html>).

**Students with Disabilities:** The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact the Office of the Dean of Students at 471-6259, 471-4641 TTY.

**Religious Holidays:** Please inform me at least 14 days in advance if you observe any religious holiday during the semester that will require your absence from class. Your needs will be accommodated.

**How to be successful in this class:**

(1) Keep up with the daily assignments. Latin is a highly cumulative subject, so you can easily get behind and/or create future difficulties by not studying and practicing. The harder you study at the beginning, the easier, relatively speaking, the later material will be.

(2) Review, review, review! Keep a running list of vocabulary words, and make sure to learn all dictionary forms and review vocabulary often. Flash cards are definitely a good choice in helping learn your vocabulary words—and you should refer back to old vocabulary regularly to make sure that you're keeping it fresh in your mind.

(3) While completing daily assignments, highlight questions and difficulties that we can address either in class or during office hours. Do not wait until the end of the week to discover problems with grammar or vocabulary.

(4) Take each exam seriously. There are too few of them to blow off one.

(5) Find a study partner. (Languages are about communication!) It is a good idea to review notes with others and discuss the material. Don't rely on others, but try to learn from different students' questions, and find out where problem areas are. If you find that you or your study partner has come across something confusing or something that interests you, let me know, and we can discuss it either in class or during office hours.

**Tentative Exam Schedule:**

Test One: September 18 (Chapters 1-7)

Test Two: October 16 (Chapters 1-14)

Test Three: November 6 (Chapters 1-19)

Final Exam: December 14, 9:00-12:00, Location TBA