

# ADVANCED LATIN

University of Western Ontario  
Latin 2000, Fall/Winter 2024-2025  
Andrew Field



*Aeneas leaves Dido. From a 5<sup>th</sup> century CE manuscript.*

## 1. Course Information

### List of Prerequisites

LAT1000: Introductory Latin

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

## 2. Instructor Information

Instructor	Email	Office	Office Hours
Andrew Field	<a href="mailto:Afield27@uwo.ca">Afield27@uwo.ca</a>		By appt.

I am Andrew Field (please call me Andrew), a Ph.D. student here at the University of Western Ontario. I am in the third year of my studies here and have been reading and studying Latin and Greek since 2016. I hold a BA in Classics from the University of Guelph (2020) and an MA in Classics from Queen's University (2022) where I wrote a thesis on the Hellenistic poet Theocritus. Currently, I am pursuing research into Latin epic and hope to have the opportunity to study Greek influence on Latin epic authors like Virgil, Ovid, and Statius.

## 3. Course Syllabus, Schedule, Delivery Mode

### Course Description

In the first half of this course, we'll complete our study of Latin grammar and vocabulary that began in LAT1000. In the second half of the course, we'll read extended passages of Latin prose and poetry (Caesar and Virgil). By the end of the course, students will have all the skills necessary to begin reading some of the greatest works of Western literature in the original Latin.

In addition to continuing to progress through *Wheelock's* during the fall term, I will introduce students to the basics of oral communication in Latin for pedagogical purposes. Latin is a language that can be used actively, and this additional method of learning will help accelerate your ability to read Latin. In the beginning weeks we will start with ten minutes of conversation about various things like a picture or go through a dialogue. In the second term we will be reading and translating the

required materials into English slowly. During this slow reading, there will be the opportunity for students to exercise both active and passive methods of learning through listening, speaking, writing, and reading.

I want to stress that only a very small portion of your grade will come from speaking Latin. In this case, I will not be evaluating your ability to compose correct sentences on the fly. Instead, I simply ask each student to participate earnestly. If each student does participate, we will all learn from each other and the assessments will feel easy and repetitive. This is a low-stakes environment where we will all make mistakes and learn as we go.

I hope to be able to provide each student with a small white board on which you will have the opportunity to write your answer before speaking it (or else we will do this on the board). Of course, sometimes we will forego the white boards and speak in conversation, but this won't be all the time. This provides students with a moment to think about their answer and respond creatively each time to a question with the opportunity for individual feedback from the instructor.

### **Learning Outcomes / Course Objectives**

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Translate, understand and contextualize passages of Classical Latin.
- Compose Latin sentences.
- Communicate orally about daily topics and literature in Latin.
- Understand and explain Latin and English grammar comprehensively.
- Appreciate and understand both Caesar's and Virgil's writing.
- Discuss the basics about Roman military and literary culture at the end of the republic.
- Create organized and disciplined study habits.
- Move onto upper-year level Latin courses of your choice.

## **4. Course Materials**

### **Texts and Materials**

F. M. Wheelock and R. A. LaFleur ***Wheelock's Latin. 7<sup>th</sup> edition.*** New York: Collin's Reference. 2011. ISBN: 0061997226

Since it is likely you already own a copy of *Wheelock's*, I haven't ordered it for the UWO bookstore. If you don't own a copy, it can be purchased on Amazon. I strongly

recommend you get the physical text in the correct edition (7<sup>th</sup>) for the sake of consistency in page numeration etc.

In the winter semester, we will read selections from Caesar's *De Bello Gallico* "On the Gallic War" and Virgil's *Aeneis* "Aeneid". I will provide materials from two recently published texts that contain summary and commentary of the original Latin text in basic Latin. We will read very slowly making sure to understand the Latin paraphrase of the original as well as comments and stylistic notes that have been written in or kept in Latin (in the case of ancient comments). Both of these texts are available for purchase here <https://store.paideiainstitute.org/collections/dolphin-editions> (but it is **not necessary** you purchase them for this course as we will only use a few pages of each that I will provide).

In addition, it may be useful to consult the following resources when reading the original Latin (Geoffrey Steadman's copies are available for print on demand on Amazon, once again it is **not necessary** to purchase any additional reading materials aside from *Wheelock's*):

Virgil:

<https://geoffreysteadman.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/collegevergil.26mar24.pdf>

<https://dcc.dickinson.edu/vergil-aeneid/vergil-aeneid-i-1-11>

Caesar:

<https://geoffreysteadman.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/collegecaesar.24nov23.pdf>

<https://dcc.dickinson.edu/caesar/book-1/chapter-1-1>

## 5. Methods of Evaluation

### Course Requirements

8%	Participation.
32%	Quizzes (10 in total, lowest 2 dropped, 4% each).
30%	In-class tests (1 per term, 15% each).
15%	Midterm (held in December exam period).
15%	Final (held in April exam period).

Since this is a language course, all exams and quizzes are inherently cumulative. However, you will not be tested on the exact same material more than once. During the first term, quizzes and tests will be based on *Wheelock's*. In the second term, quizzes and tests will be based on the texts we read and the discussions we have in class. The second term evaluations will not be as grammar and vocabulary focused and instead will be focused on reading comprehension. There are no explicit oral/speaking based evaluations aside from daily participation.