

LATINA FLOREAT!

Materials:

A quality 3-ring binder (not the cheap, floppy kind) with at least a 1 ½ spine
Plenty of lined paper
Ecce Romani III text book (provided)
Fabulae Romanae (provided, also available for purchase at half cost)
Cicero's First Oration Against Catiline (In Catilinam I) (supplied, also available)

Content: The Latin III course introduces the student to reading unedited Latin literature. The course will begin with a thorough but rapid review of Latin grammar and prose composition of everything from 1st Declension nouns to complicated subjunctive verb constructions. Recitations of endings lists and verb synopsis tests will be frequent in the first quarter.

As we review in the first quarter, we will be preparing to read authentic Latin literature by working our way through selections from the Vulgate Bible and *Fabulae Romanae*, a progressively more difficult reader that nicely spans the gap between *Ecce* and Cicero. We will finish the semester with reading Cicero's First Oration Against Catiline. In the second semester, our reading will include Caesar's Gallic Wars, Livy's History of Rome, Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, and letters by Pliny.

Throughout the readings we will maintain a focus on understanding the grammar and endings, and testing will require identification of word forms and syntax. Moreover, translation will be the most important part of the course and students are required to produce written translations of all passages covered. In addition, we will treat the Latin readings as literature for discussion, as so at times Latin will seem like a literature class. This means that essays (written in English) may also be a component of the course.

In the spring we shall take about two weeks to prepare for both the National Myth Exam and the National Latin Exam, two tests in which our school has traditionally performed very well, and in which students may earn awards that will be appended to their academic records.

Quizzes and Tests: will be frequent- usually a short translation quiz of material already covered in class with questions about the grammar and relevance of the text. Since we will spend all our time reading the literature until we have mastered it, quizzes should be easy. Two days notice will be given, however, before a quiz.

You may look on the new Google calendar for scheduled tests.

Homework Policy: There will be 20 minutes of homework every night, often including weekends. Normally, you will be translating 10-15 lines per night, but expect frequent grammar assignments in the first quarter. The purpose of homework in this class is not so much to reinforce grammar and vocabulary as to learn to read fluently and intelligently. Part of each night's homework includes reviewing unfamiliar vocabulary.

If a student arrives unprepared for class, Ridgeview policy states that it can be completed the next day for 50% percent credit. After that, no credit can be awarded for incomplete work.

Participation: Active participation is more important at this level of Latin than in lower levels. Participation might look like coming into class with your translation prepared, armed with a few

questions about the parts that stumped you. You might also raise questions about the literature itself, for our ultimate aim is to read, not solve language puzzles.

A note on vocabulary: At this level of Latin study, we do not typically use vocabulary quizzes as a means to acquire new words. The vocabulary of masterful authors like Cicero and Livy cannot be confined to the elementary level and their more difficult and technical vocabulary will be provided in the gloss next to each page of reading. However, Latin III assumes a certain comfort with the most commonly used words, which can be found in the the glossary at the end of the text book. I recommend purchasing a paperback Latin dictionary and marking the words that you must look up. After marking the “fero, ferre, tuli, latus” four or five times, you will likely not look it up again.

Extra Help: Students may meet with me before or after school or during lunch for extra help. The best way to contact me is via e-mail (bwicke@ridgeviewclassical.com), but I may also be contacted via voice mail at extension 158.

Greek is the embodiment of the fluent speech that runs or soars, the speech of a people which could not help giving winged feet to its god of art. Latin is the embodiment of the weighty and concentrated speech which is hammered and pressed and polished into the shape of its perfection, as the ethically minded Romans believed that the soul also should be wrought. -Havelock Ellis

I hereby affirm that I have read this syllabus and understand the requirements for success in this class.

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

Parent E-mail (optional, but VERY helpful to me!)