Overview and Contact Information

Latin is alive and well in the many English words that have Latin roots and as the matriarch of the modern Romance languages—Italian, French, Spanish, Portuguese, and Romanian. More important, it lives on in the influence it exerted on countless later writers and thinkers and, of course, in Latin works that modern audiences continue to find relevant. Among the most familiar names in Latin literature are those from its apex in the first century BCE and first century CE. Authors such as Cicero, Caesar, Catullus, Vergil, Horace, Livy, Ovid, and Tacitus mastered the genres of epic, lyric, and elegiac poetry, satire, oratory, and historiography.

The department offers courses in Latin at all levels, with those at the intermediate and advanced levels focusing on many of the authors mentioned above. Students will also find a wide array of courses (in English) approaching the culture and history of Roman antiquity from a variety of perspectives.

While the study of Latin is a foundation stone of the discipline of classics, the Latin major or minor is also excellent preparation for advanced study in English, religion, philosophy, and history. There are also many opportunities for teaching Latin at the middle and high school levels (see below on Teaching Licensure).

In addition to Latin, the department offers majors in classics, Greek, and ancient studies. Classics combines the study of both ancient languages with courses in ancient history, art, philosophy, politics, or religion. Ancient studies approaches Greek and Roman civilizations from an interdisciplinary perspective with less emphasis on the ancient languages. There are also minors related to each of these majors.

Study Abroad

The department encourages study abroad. In recent years a number of students in the department have spent part of their junior years at the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies (ICCS) in Rome. Some have pursued their studies at Oxford, Saint Andrews, and other institutions in Great Britain. Students who anticipate taking an advanced degree in Latin, Classics, and Roman worlds through different disciplines and modes of inquiry.

Requirements for the Major

A minimum of 32 credits:

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>At least 12 credits at the 300 level in the language of concentration</td>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 additional credits in approved courses at the 200 or 300 level.</td>
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<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>These may be courses in Latin or Greek and/or a variety of courses in art history, classics (in English), history, philosophy, politics or religion.</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Credits</td>
<td></td>
<td>32</td>
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1 These courses should be selected after consulting with the student's advisor.

Requirements for the Minor

A minimum of 16 credits:

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<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 credits above the 100 level in the Latin language</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>At least 4 credits in the Latin language at the 300 level</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Credits</td>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
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Teacher Licensure

Students interested in pursuing licensure in the fields of Latin and Classics can combine their course work in Latin and classics with a minor in education. In some instances course work in the major coincides with course work required for licensure; in other cases, it does not. For
specific course requirements for licensure within the majors of Latin and classics, please consult your advisor or the chair of the classics department. Further information about the minor in education (http://catalog.mtholyoke.edu/areas-study/psychology-education/#minorstext) and the Teacher Licensure program (http://catalog.mtholyoke.edu/areas-study/psychology-education/#teacherlicensuretext) is available in other sections of the catalog, or consult Ms. Lawrence in the psychology and education department.

Licensure also requires a formal application as well as passing scores on the Massachusetts Test of Educator Licensure (MTEL) in both the literacy component and the subject matter component. Copies of the test objectives for the MTEL are available in the classics department and in the Department of Psychology and Education.

Additional information about the Licensure Program, including application materials, can be found on the Teacher Licensure Program website (https://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/teach/).

Course Offerings

LATIN-101 Elementary Latin I
Fall. Credits: 4
Offers study and practice in the grammar and syntax of classical Latin.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language
B. Arnold, C. Baker
Restrictions: This course is limited to first-years, sophomores, and juniors

LATIN-102 Elementary Latin II
Spring. Credits: 4
Offers study and practice in the grammar and syntax of classical Latin.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language
B. Arnold
Advisory: Students who have not completed LATIN-101 should consult the department.

LATIN-201 Intermediate Latin I
Fall. Credits: 4
Combines a thorough review of Latin grammar and syntax with an introduction to the life and literature of ancient Rome, based on the reading of selected passages of Roman prose and poetry.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language
C. Baker, G. Sumi
Prereq: LATIN-102.

LATIN-202 Cicero and the Enemies of the Roman Republic
Spring. Credits: 4
The career of the Roman orator and statesman Marcus Tullius Cicero spanned the last generation of the Roman Republic, a period of political instability and civil war. As the leading orator of his day, Cicero often used his rhetorical skills to thwart those who he believed were bent on the destruction of the Roman Republic. In this course, we will examine the role of public oratory in the political process in this period with a close reading of Cicero's speeches and letters concerning one of his political enemies (Catiline, Clodius, or Mark Antony).
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language
G. Sumi
Prereq: LATIN-201.

LATIN-203 Studies in Various Roman Authors or Genres
Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 2 - 4
Studies in various Roman authors or genres.
Applies to requirement(s): Meets No Distribution Requirement
The department
Instructor permission required
Notes: Repeatable for credit. Can meet the Humanities requirement, but only if taken for 4 credits.

LATIN-205 Latin Literature: The Augustan Age
Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4
A study of the literature of the Augustan age, including works by Vergil and Tullianus.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language
G. Sumi
Prereq: LATIN-201.

LATIN-206 Latin Literature: The Empire
Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4
A study of Latin literature from the Empire, including works by Seneca, Juvenal, and Tacitus.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language
G. Sumi
Prereq: LATIN-201.

LATIN-207 Latin Literature: The Late Republic
Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4
A study of Latin literature from the Late Republic, including works by Cicero, Catullus, and Vergil.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language
G. Sumi
Prereq: LATIN-201.

LATIN-208 Latin Literature: The Early Empire
Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4
A study of Latin literature from the Early Empire, including works by Suetonius and Cassius Dio.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language
G. Sumi
Prereq: LATIN-201.

LATIN-209 Vergil: Aeneid
Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4
A study of the Aeneid with attention both to its presentation of the classic conflict between Greek and Roman value systems and to its controversial portrayal of empire in the Augustan age.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language
B. Arnold
Prereq: LATIN-201.

LATIN-213 Myth, Memory, and History: Writing the Past in the Roman Republic
Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4
An examination of the role of myth, memory, and history in the Roman Republic.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language
B. Arnold
Prereq: LATIN-201.

LATIN-295 Independent Study
Fall and Spring. Credits: 1 - 4
The department
Instructor permission required

LATIN-302 Cicero and the Enemies of the Roman Republic
Spring. Credits: 4
The career of the Roman orator and statesman Marcus Tullius Cicero spanned the last generation of the Roman Republic, a period of political instability and civil war. As the leading orator of his day, Cicero often used his rhetorical skills to thwart those who he believed were bent on the destruction of the Roman Republic. In this course, we will examine the role of public oratory in the political process in this period with a close reading of Cicero's speeches and letters concerning one of his political enemies (Catiline, Clodius, or Mark Antony).
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language
G. Sumi
Prereq: Two courses in Latin at the 200-level or any 300-level Latin course.

LATIN-307 The Slender Muse
Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4
A study of the highly romantic poetry that launched a revolution in Latin literature, including such works as Catullus's epyllion on Peleus and Thetis and Vergil's Eclogues and Georgics, with attention to the new understanding of poetry shown in these poems and to their commentary on the social turmoil of the last phase of the Republic.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language
B. Arnold
Prereq: Any Latin course above LATIN-201.
LATIN-309 Vergil: Aeneid
Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4
A study of the Aeneid with attention both to its presentation of the classic conflict between Greek and Roman value systems and to its controversial portrayal of empire in the Augustan age.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language
B. Arnold
Prereq: Two courses in Latin at the 200-level or any 300-level Latin course.

LATIN-310 Ovid: Metamorphoses
Fall. Credits: 4
A study of Ovid's ambitious epic celebrating change and transformative forces, with attention to the challenges it poses to traditional Roman values and to conventional Roman notions of the work appropriate to a poet. In particular, consideration will be given to the way Ovid's poem subversively responds to Vergil's work.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language
B. Arnold
Prereq: Two courses in Latin at the 200-level or any 300-level Latin course.

LATIN-313 Myth, Memory, and History: Writing the Past in the Roman Republic
Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4
Livy and Sallust, the best known historians of the Roman Republic, viewed history writing as a moral enterprise, presenting events from the past as exemplary tales to inform and enlighten the lives of their readers. Their narratives thus are highly rhetorical, combining myth, memory, and history to reconstruct the past. Close reading of selections from Livy's Ab Urbe Condita and/or Sallust's monographs--the Bellum Catilinae and Bellum Jugurthinum--will lead to discussions about how Romans viewed their past and how they wrote about it.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language
G. Sumi
Prereq: Two courses in Latin at the 200-level or any 300-level Latin course.

LATIN-395 Independent Study
Fall and Spring. Credits: 1 - 8
The department
Instructor permission required.