

SYLLABUS

PROFESSOR BETH SEVERY-HOVEN

Office: 312 Old Main ~ Office phone: 6721

Office hours: Tuesdays 2-3, Fridays 10-11, *and by appointment*

Email: severy@macalester.edu

On-line course materials available on Moodle: <http://moodle.macalester.edu>

PRECEPTOR KATE PETERSEN, '11

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special office hours before exams and by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND GOALS

Classics 212 is the second semester in the Macalester Latin sequence and completes the basic introduction to the structures and vocabulary of the language of the ancient Romans. Since no native speakers survive, the program overall focuses on reading and writing. We move through the basic grammatical forms at a sharp pace. Although it will take the entire semester to finish introducing students to Latin grammar, along the way we will read selections from materials written by native speakers. Together, we can complete these laborious and potentially tedious first steps in Latin and prepare to move into the fascinating literature of Catullus, Vergil, Ovid, Petronius and Cicero. We will also spend time when possible discussing Roman history and culture, another important part of preparing to read ancient Latin texts.

Assignments, readings and class time are organized with the goal that at the conclusion of the full year of Elementary Latin, students will:

- have knowledge of essential forms and syntax of Latin and familiarity with its basic vocabulary, from which many English words derive;
- understand how these fundamentals differ from the forms and syntax of English, leading to an increased understanding of how languages function;
- be able to read, understand, and translate appropriate passages in Latin.

EXPECTATIONS AND EVALUATION

Class Preparation & Participation	20%
Vocabulary & Grammar Quizzes	20%
Exams (2 midterms, 1 final)	60%

The second semester of elementary Latin involves increasingly complex grammatical structures and syntax. In addition, the need for memorization continues, since new forms and new vocabulary must be learned. Falling behind in any of this work poses a serious threat to your ability to do well. I have designed the reading, assignments and class activities to assist you in understanding and learning the course material. From the beginning of the semester, you must make a commitment to spend the requisite amount of time preparing for class. In turn, it is Kate and my job to keep you on your toes, and to make certain you understand how to use the forms and words you are memorizing. Class meets three times a week, and our preceptor Kate will offer a choice of two lab times each week as well. You should also feel encouraged to seek either or both of us out in office hours – make the most of your resources, don't fall behind, and your skills will develop quickly.

Homework assignments will be given every day to help you work through and learn the material. You will be expected to give this work serious effort, but you will probably make mistakes and encounter problems. When you get stuck, try to figure out what has stumped you and be ready to ask about it in class. *This is what homework and class are for – to help you identify problems and get your questions answered.* Once material has been assigned to be learned, it is fair game for oral drills in class, a pop quiz, or scheduled quiz or exam. **You must be present in class to turn in assignments or participate in drills and quizzes;** late and make-up work will not be accepted except under extreme circumstances. I will drop the two lowest quiz grades at the end of the semester to make up for legitimate absences. Kate's lab sessions provide the opportunity to review new and old material – come prepared to ask questions and practice together. Attendance will be kept in class and labs. You will not receive credit for participation if you are absent; after four absences your grade will suffer directly, and more than six absences may cause you to fail the course. Note that all handouts and other course materials are available on the Moodle page for this course: <http://moodle.macalester.edu>.

Three exams will be given over the course of the semester -- following Chapters 20, 25, and 32. Each will be weighted equally with the others. Vocabulary and grammar quizzes occur regularly and are noted on the schedule; vocabulary quizzes are given in class, grammar quizzes are usually provided online via Moodle. The final exam is scheduled for **Thursday, May 5, 8-10am**. If you have difficulties with the date of any scheduled quiz or exam, consult with me in advance. I am committed to providing assistance to help you be successful in this course. Accommodations are available for students with documented disabilities. Contact the Associate Dean of Students, Lisa Landreman, at 696-6220 or llandrem@macalester.edu to make an appointment. It is important to meet early in the semester to ensure your accommodations are approved and you begin the semester successfully.

TEXTBOOKS

Susan Shelmerdine's *Introduction to Latin*, First Edition Revised, (Focus, 2007) will continue to be the main textbook for our course. Not required but highly recommended is *English Grammar for Students of Latin*. N. Goldman, Olivia and Hill Press.