

# Latin I: Beginning Latin

Spring 2025 Syllabus

## Instructor

Alexander Kraut (LAT1120)

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Classroom: LEIO142

Office Hours: MW (1:50-2:50 PM or by appointment) in Dauer 125E.

Dept. Phone: (352) 392-2075

Meeting Times: MWF (12:50 - 1:40 PM)

“Nec levis ingenuās pectus coluisse per artēs  
Cūra sit et linguās ēdidicisse duās.”

“Nor ought we count it some trifle to cultivate one’s mind by the liberal arts;  
Let her also become proficient in Latin and Greek.”

- Ovid, *Ars Am.* 2.121-2

## Course Description

This course has been designed to introduce students to the Latin language and provide them with a degree of familiarity with its grammatical norms such that they may operate confidently and comfortably in more advanced Latin courses at UF. In an effort to facilitate learners’ understanding and retention of the subject matter, our class will make use of both passive and active pedagogical methods. Students will be expected to memorize grammatical and lexical material, read simple sentences, compose basic phrases *ex tempore*, and engage in a number of group activities. Although our primary text for this semester is *Wheelock’s Latin* (chs. 1-14), supplemental didactic material taking the form of handouts (e.g. translation exercises) will play a key role in students’ learning process—in class and at home.

I encourage any of you who have questions or concerns regarding the course to reach out and voice them freely. My preferred means of contact are in-person, vis. my office hours or through individually scheduled meetings, and via email (see the address listed above).

## Course Policies and Accommodations

A perfect attendance record is expected of each and every participant. An unexcused absence will incur the offending student a penalty amounting to one half of a percentage point that is to be deducted from the “Participation” portion of his/her final grade. If you happen to miss a class, please contact your instructor ASAP. For absences due to participation in an official university activity, observance of a religious holiday, performance of a military duty, or any other conflict (e.g. jury duty) that the student knows about in advance of the scheduled assignment, he/she is required to notify the instructor of the conflict before the assignment is due, and if possible at the start of the semester in order to arrange for make-up time and procedures. No make-ups will be allowed for unexcused absences except in extreme circumstances. Requirements for

class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in the course are consistent with university policies.

See <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center. See the “Get Started With the DRC” webpage on the Disability Resource Center site (<https://disability.ufl.edu/get-started/>). It is imperative that you share an accommodation letter with the instructor and discuss your access needs as early as possible in the semester.

## **Classroom Policies**

In order to maintain a productive learning environment that is amenable to all students, cell-phone ringers must be turned off for the duration of our class period. In addition to minimizing electronic disturbances, the cultivation of a distraction-free environment necessitates respectful behavior towards one’s peers at all times: shouting, speaking out of turn, and cheating will not be tolerated in the classroom. Please also be respectful of others’ beliefs and sensitivities.

In certain circumstances students may use electronic devices to record video or audio of class lectures. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal education use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. Such records must never be published (shared, transmitted, circulated, or distributed) without the instructor’s expressed permission.

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Conduct Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. See the UF Conduct Code website for more information. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

## **Course Objectives**

Students will learn the inflectional patterns of the Latin language and be able to recognize different declensions and conjugations. Students will also acquire a rich vocabulary as they begin their study of ancient Roman society through cultural and political lenses. This classical argot will aid in the memorization of lexical forms and help familiarize us with Latin grammar.

## **Required Textbooks**

- Wheelock, Frederick M. and R. A. LaFleur, *Wheelock's Latin*. 2011. ISBN-0061997226.

## **Recommended Textbooks**

- Groton, Anne and James May, *38 Latin Stories*. 2004. ISBN-0865162891.

*Wheelock's Latin*, like any language learning textbook, has its virtues and its vices; where its Latinity and pedagogical efficacy fall short, we may nevertheless benefit from its learned concision and adroit descriptions of grammatical concepts. Although I will utilize this text throughout the semester, as I trust you will as well, it shall not become a collective crutch. More active means of engaging with the subject matter, such as spoken exercises and monolingual readers, will also form a core component of this course. Latin, we need to remember, is not *code* to be cracked. Latin is a *language*, fundamentally no different from the one in which I am communicating to you right now. Despite no longer being in active use by native speakers, Latin is most profitably studied by those who treat it as though it were. This is precisely why lectures, class discussions, and individual meetings (via office hours) will prove integral to your comprehension of the course material and the attainment of our learning goals. I would also encourage you to review the ancillary materials listed below, which fill in some of the gaps left by *Wheelock's*.

## **Supplementary Materials and Recommended Resources**

- Hans H. Ørberg, *Lingua Latina per se Illustrata: Familia Romana. Pars I*, Focus Publishing, R. Pullins Company, 2011, ISBN-158510423X.
- Maturinus Corderius, *Colloquia Scholastica*.
  - This book is available online for free in .pdf format.

## **Schedule**

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Special Assignments</u>
<b>Week 1</b>	Introduction, Verbs; First and Second Conjugation (laudō and moneō): Indicative, Imperative, and Infinitive	
<b>Week 2</b> (No Class Monday, 1/20)	Nouns and Cases; First Declension; Agreement of Adjectives	Vocabulary Quiz #1
<b>Week 3</b>	Second Declension; Masculine Nouns and Adjectives; Apposition;	Reading Quiz #1

	Word Order	
<b>Week 4</b>	Neuters of the Second Declension; Summary of Adjectives; Present Indicative of Sum; Predicate Nouns and Adjectives; Substantives	Vocabulary Quiz #2
<b>Week 5</b>	First and Second Conjugations: Future and Imperfect; Adjectives in -er	Reading Quiz #2
<b>Week 6</b>	Sum: Future and Imperfect Indicative; Possum: Present, Future, and Imperfect Indicative; Complementary Infinitive	Reading Quiz #3
<b>Week 7</b>	Third Declension: Nouns	Vocabulary Quiz #3
<b>Week 8</b>	Third Conjugation (agō): Present Infinitive, Present, Future, and Imperfect Indicative, Present Imperative	
<b>Week 9</b>	cont. Third Conjugation; Demonstrative Pronouns: Hic, Ille, Iste; Special -ius adjectives	Midterm <i>PROJECT</i> Due
Spring Break	N/A	N/A
<b>Week 10</b>	Fourth Conjugation and Third -iō: Present and Future Indicative, Present Imperative and Active Infinitive	
<b>Week 11</b>	cont. Fourth and Third -iō Conjugation; Personal Pronouns Egō and Tū; Pronouns Is and idem	Reading Quiz #4
<b>Week 12</b>	cont. Personal Pronouns Egō and Tū; Pronouns Is and idem; Perfect System	Vocabulary Quiz #4

	Active of All Verbs; Principal Parts	
<b>Week 13</b> (No Class Friday, 4/25 - Reading Day)	cont. Perfect System Active of All Verbs; Principal Parts; Reflexive Pronouns and Possessives; The Intensive Pronoun 'Ipse'	Final <i>EXAM</i> (Take-home; handed out 4/25, due 4/30)

*\*Subject to change. Please check Canvas regularly for updates!*

**Grading and Feedback**

The points breakdown as follows: Participation 25%, Midterm Project 15%, Homework 24%, Quizzes 16% (two percentage points apiece), Final Exam 20%. Information on current UF policies for assigning grade points can be found here: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>.

**Letter Grade    Range**

A                    100% to 94%

A-                   < 94% to 90%

B+                   < 90% to 87%

B                    < 87% to 84%

B-                   < 84% to 80%

C+                   < 80% to 77%

C                    < 77% to 74%

C-	< 74% to 70%
D+	< 70% to 67%
D	< 67% to 64%
D-	< 64% to 61%
F	< 61% to 0%

Pupils themselves are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under 1 GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

## **Examination**

Your final examination period will last exactly two hours from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM on April 30th, 2025. The take-home final, which will have been assigned five days in advance, must be completed and submitted to your instructor during this window.

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## Campus Resources

### **Health and Wellness**

- U Matter, We Care: If you or a friend is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu) or call (352) 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

- Counseling and Wellness Center: Visit <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc>, or call (352) 392-1575 or the University Police Department at (352) 392-1111—Call 911 for emergencies.
- Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)
- For the Student Health Care Center, call (352) 392-1161.
- University Police Department Call (352) 392-1111 (or 911 for emergencies), or visit <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>.

## **Academic Resources**

- E-Learning Technical Support Call (352) 392-4357, select option 2, or e-mail [Learning-support@ufl.edu](mailto:Learning-support@ufl.edu). Visit <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.
- Career Resource Center
- Visit Reitz Union, or call (352) 392-1601. Reach out for career assistance and counseling. Also, visit <https://www.crc.ufl.edu/>.
- Library Support Visit <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Reach out for various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.
- Teaching Center
- Visit Broward Hall, or call (352) 392-2010 or (352) 392-6420. Reach out for general study skills and tutoring. Also, visit <https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>.
- Writing Studio
- Visit Tigert Hall 302, or call (352) 846-1138. Reach out for help with brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. Also, visit <https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>.
- Student Complaints Campus Visit [https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF\\_Complaints\\_policy.pdf](https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf).
- On-Line Students Complaints Visit <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process>.