LATIN COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

LAT 101, 102: ELEMENTARY LATIN (4, 4)
This year-long course introduces the elements of the classical Latin language. Skills in grammar and syntax will lead to an ability to read continuous Latin prose as well as illuminate the workings of English vocabulary and grammar. The readings of simple prose and poetry will introduce Roman culture of the late Republican and early Imperial periods. Fulfills the language requirement for those students who have not previously studied Latin. Open to first-year students.

LAT 113: INTERMEDIATE LATIN (4)
This course completes a survey of advanced grammatical and syntactical issues while reviewing the basics and increasing vocabulary. The class will read unaltered Latin prose selections from such works as Petronius’ Satyricon, Apuleius’ The Golden Ass, Pliny’s Letters, or the Vulgate that will lead to discussions of prose style, authorial intent, genre, and Roman cultural norms. Prerequisite: LAT 102 or equivalent.

LAT 201: INTERMEDIATE LATIN I (4)
This course completes a survey of advanced grammatical and syntactical issues while reviewing the basics and increasing vocabulary. The class will read unaltered Latin prose selections from such works as Petronius’ Satyricon, Apuleius’ The Golden Ass, Pliny’s letters, or the Vulgate that will lead to discussions of prose style, authorial intent, genre, and Roman cultural norms. Prerequisite: LAT 102 or equivalent.

LAT 202: INTERMEDIATE LATIN II (4)
An introduction to Roman poetry based on translation and close analysis of two books of Vergil’s Aeneid, discussion of the entire poem read in English, practice in the scansion of Latin poetry, and further review of Latin grammar and syntax. Prerequisite: LAT 201 or equivalent. Fulfills the language requirement for those students who have previously studied Latin.

LAT 210: VERGIL (4)
In this second-year course, students will read, analyze, and discuss selections from Vergil’s Aeneid. The class will complete advanced study in the scansion and rhetorical devices of Latin poetry, as well as expand vocabulary and grammatical understanding. The course will also set the poem in the context of the historical and social events in Rome that inspired them as well as explore the Greek precedents for the genre of epic poetry. This course meets in conjunction with LAT 310. Prerequisite: LAT 113 or 201 or equivalent.

LAT 210: ROMAN EPIC (4)
In this second-year course, students will read, analyze, and discuss selections from Vergil’s Aeneid. The class will complete advanced study in the scansion and rhetorical devices of Latin poetry, as well as expand vocabulary and grammatical understanding. The course will also set the poem in the context of the historical and social events in Rome that inspired them as well as explore the Greek precedents for the genre of epic poetry. This course meets in conjunction with LAT 310. Prerequisite: LAT 113 or 201 or equivalent.

LAT 220: ROMAN LYRIC POETRY (4)
In this second-year course, students will read, analyze, and discuss the poetry of Catullus and Horace. The class will complete advanced study in the scansion and rhetorical devices of Latin poetry, as well as expand vocabulary and grammatical understanding. The course will also set the poems in the context of the historical and social events in Rome that inspired them as well as explore the Greek precedents for the genre of lyric poetry. This course meets in conjunction with LAT 320. Prerequisite: LAT 113 or 201 or equivalent.
LAT 227: EPISTOLARY LATIN (4)
If the surviving correspondence of Pliny or Cicero is a reliable witness, the Romans were prodigious letter writers. This course will read and analyse the published letters of the more illustrious Romans named above, and letters that survive on papyri and wooden tablets, such as the famed Vindolanda letters. The study of the epistolary genre reveals details of daily life, personal relationships, and political bickering as well as colloquialisms and unusual language. Letters will be studied as a mode of communication, historical documents and literary vehicles. Prerequisite: LAT 113 or LAT 201 or equivalent.

LAT 250: SPECIAL TOPIC - EPISTOLARY LATIN (4)
An introduction to the letter writing style of Latin authors such as Pliny and Cicero, as well as the study of archaeologically recovered letters from Vindolanda. Fundamentals of Latin grammar and vocabulary are also covered. Prerequisite: LAT 102 or equivalent.

LAT 250: SPECIAL TOPIC - THE ROMAN NOVEL (4)
This course introduces the student to the style and subtleties of Latin prose by reading significant selections of Apuleius’ Metamorphoses and Petronius’ Satyricon, two surviving examples of the Roman novel. While topics in grammar, syntax, and vocabulary will drive the course, some basic concepts of literary analysis and development of the genre will be covered as well. The course meets in conjunction with LAT 380. Prerequisite: LAT 201 or equivalent. Fulfills the language requirement for those students who have previously studied Latin.

LAT 280: ROMAN NOVEL (4)
Petronius’ Satyricon and Apuleius’ Metamorphoses or The Golden Ass are the main representatives of the Roman novel. In this second-year course, students will read significant portions of both texts in Latin and study the stylistic and syntactical distinctions of each author. The class will also track the evolution of the genre from the Greek period into the late Roman empire with selected readings in translation. This course meets in conjunction with LAT 380. Prerequisite: LAT 113 or 201 or equivalent.

LAT 290: INDEPENDENT STUDY (2 or 4)
Independent study conducted below the advanced level. Application must be made with faculty prior to registration.

LAT 310: ROMAN EPIC (4)
Students will read, analyze, and discuss selections from Vergil’s Aeneid. The class will complete advanced study in the scansion and rhetorical devices of Latin poetry, as well as expand vocabulary and grammatical understanding. The course will also set the poem in the context of the historical and social events in Rome that inspired them as well as explore the Greek precedents for the genre of epic poetry. Prerequisite: LAT 202 or equivalent.

LAT 320: ROMAN LYRIC POETRY (4)
Students will read, analyze, and discuss the poetry of Catullus and Horace. The class will complete advanced study in the scansion and rhetorical devices of Latin poetry, as well as expand vocabulary and grammatical understanding. The course will also set the poems in the context of the historical and social events in Rome that inspired them as well as explore the Greek precedents for the genre of lyric poetry. Prerequisite: LAT 202 or equivalent.

LAT 327: EPISTOLARY LATIN (4)
This course will read and analyse the published letters of illustrious Romans, and letters that survive on papyri and wooden tablets, such as the famed Vindolanda letters. Letters will be studied as a mode of communication, historical documents and literary vehicles. The course meets in conjunction with LAT 227. Prerequisite: LAT 210, LAT 220, LAT 280 or equivalent.
LAT 330: ROMAN HISTORIANS (4)
A study of ancient historiography based upon the translation and thoughtful analysis of readings in English from three major Roman historians: Sallust, Livy, and Tacitus. To enhance our understanding of the genre and the history of the era, we shall also read selections from other ancient historians, orators, and biographers, as well as works of modern scholarship. Prerequisite: LAT 202 or equivalent.

LAT 340: MEDIEVAL LATIN (4)
This course surveys Latin literature from late antiquity to the Renaissance. Readings will be chosen according to the needs and interests of students; possible subjects include: the Vulgate, Augustine’s Confessions, Einhard’s Life of Charlemagne, the letters of Abelard and Heloise, and poems from the Carmina Burana. The class will also study linguistic changes and teach the rudiments of paleography (the reading of ancient and medieval manuscripts). Prerequisite: LAT 202 or equivalent.

LAT 350: SPECIAL TOPIC - EPISTOLARY LATIN (4)
An introduction to the letter writing style of Latin authors such as Pliny and Cicero, as well as the study of archaeologically recovered letters from Vindolanda. Fundamentals of Latin grammar and vocabulary are also covered. Prerequisite: LAT 102 or equivalent.

LAT 350: SPECIAL TOPIC - ROMAN BIOGRAPHY (4)
The bulk of the class will consist of translation and analysis of one or more of Suetonius’ Lives of the 12 Caesars. In addition, the class will read (in English) and discuss other examples of the genre, including biographies by Tacitus, Plutarch, and the so-called “Writers of Augustan History”. Occasional videos (I, Claudius; HBO’s Rome) will enhance the experience. Prerequisite: LAT 202 or the equivalent.

LAT 350: SPECIAL TOPIC - ROMAN SATIRE (4)
This study of the genre invented by the Romans includes readings in Latin (Juvenal, the Apocolocyntosis) and English (Horace, Perseus, Juvenal), giving attention to poetic form, style, and social context. Not for the easily offended. Prerequisite: LAT 202 or equivalent.

LAT 360: ROMAN COMEDY (4)
A study of the comic art of Plautus and Terence based on translation and analysis of at least two of their plays. We shall also read (in English) and discuss several more of their plays, as well as those of their Greek ancestors (Arisophanes and Menander) and modern descendants (Shakespeare, Moliere). We shall also watch several videos and examine important works of modern scholarship. Prerequisite: LAT 202 or equivalent.

LAT 370: CICERO (4)
A study of the various works of the great Roman orator, statesman, and philosopher. We shall translate and analyze at least one oration plus either a philosophical work or selections from his personal letters. We shall also discuss some of his most famous works (read in English), as well as the intellectual and political climate of the later Roman Republic. Prerequisite: LAT 202 or equivalent.

LAT 380: THE ROMAN NOVEL (4)
Petronius’ Satyrina and Apuleius’ Metamorphoses or Golden Ass are the main representatives of the Roman novel. Students will read significant portions of both texts in Latin and study the stylistic and syntactical distinctions of each author. The class will also track the evolution of the genre from the Greek period into the late Roman Empire with selected readings in translation. Prerequisite: LAT 202 or equivalent.

LAT 390: INDEPENDENT STUDY (2 or 4)
Independent study conducted at the advanced level. Application must be made with faculty prior to registration.
LAT 399: INTERNSHIP (4)
Application must be made with faculty prior to registration.