

COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES - GREEK AND ROMAN STUDIES

**LATN 3901/4901: ADVANCED LATIN
ROMAN LETTERS**

Wednesdays 2:35-5:25, Room: Southam Hall 501

Professor: Laura Banducci

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Phone: (613) 520-2600 ext. 2930

Email: laura.banducci@carleton.ca

Office hours: Mon. & Tues. 11:35-12:30 pm, or by appointment

Course Description

This course introduces students to Latin epistles. Epistolography, the art of letter writing, is a growing field of historical study since letters can reveal so much about personal relationships, social expectations, and political intrigue, not to mention writing habits and rhetoric. We will translate the letters of several authors and examine the different ways in which these authors approached their correspondence. Cicero wrote letters to his friends and family and provides very interesting information about family life and social values at the end of the Roman republican period. Pliny the Younger wrote to friends, colleagues, and even the Emperor Trajan, about personal issues like his uncle's death during the eruption at Pompeii and about his administration while he was governor of Bithynia-Pontus. Seneca wrote philosophical musings in the guise of letters. Noble Christian women wrote letters to family members and Church fathers regarding their position and safety.

The goal of this course is to improve students' Latin reading ability and to introduce them to a significant aspect of Roman culture; thus, as part of our study of the prose of epistles, we will also practice Latin prose composition. Throughout the semester, each student will write an ongoing letter to a friend in Latin. This will be workshopped in class so that by the end of the semester, constructions and phrases will be both grammatically accurate and fluent. Though Latin prose composition sometimes seems daunting, it is actually quite straightforward and can be very rewarding; it provides a new opportunity to return to the basics of Latin grammar while at the same time explore the malleability of the language.

Students' progress will be assessed based on class participation (translation aloud), a quiz, a midterm, their composed Latin letter (in three stages), and a final exam. Students taking the class at the 4th year level will also write a final short essay.

Required texts

Selections from the letters of Cicero: Bailey, S. *Cicero: Selected Letters*. Cambridge. (1980) (for purchase online)

Selection from the letters of Pliny: Fisher, M.B. and M.R. Griffin. *Selections from Pliny's Letters*. Cambridge. (1973) (for purchase online)

Seneca Letters Book 1, Letter 2 on cuLearn

Selections from Adelaide of Burgundy (CE 995) on cuLearn

Selections from Adela, countess of Blois, Chartres, and Meaux (1133-37) on cuLearn

Gildersleeve's Latin Grammar (available as a pdf online:

<https://archive.org/details/gildersleeveslat00gilduoft> or for purchase via Amazon/AbeBooks)

Suggested readings

Hooper, F., and M. Schwartz, eds. 1991. *Roman letters: history from a personal point of view*. Detroit: Wayne State University Press. (on reserve in the MacOdrum library)

Hutchinson, G.O. *Cicero's correspondence: a literary study*. Oxford. 1998. (available online via MacOdrum library)

Evaluation

3901 students	4901 students
Attendance/Participation/Preparation 25%	Attendance/Participation/Preparation 20%
Quiz 10%	Quiz 10%
Prose comp I & Prose comp II 7.5% each	Prose comp I & Prose comp II 5% each
Final Latin letter 15%	Final Latin letter 15%
Midterm exam 15%	Midterm exam 15%
Final exam 20%	Essay 15%
	Final exam 15%

REGULATIONS COMMON TO ALL HUMANITIES COURSES

COPIES OF WRITTEN WORK SUBMITTED

Always retain for yourself a copy of all essays, term papers, written assignments or take-home tests submitted in your courses.

PLAGIARISM

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “*presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.*” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in “*substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.*”

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of “F” for the course

GRADING SYSTEM

Letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100 (12)	B = 73-76 (8)	C - = 60-62 (4)
A = 85-89 (11)	B- = 70-72 (7)	D+ = 57-59 (3)
A- = 80-84 (10)	C+ = 67-69 (6)	D = 53-56 (2)
B+ = 77-79 (9)	C = 63-66 (5)	D - = 50-52 (1)

F	Failure. Assigned 0.0 grade points
ABS	Absent from final examination, equivalent to F
DEF	Official deferral (see “Petitions to Defer”)
FND	Failure with no deferred exam allowed -- assigned only when the student has failed the course on the basis of inadequate term work as specified in the course outline.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean.

WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY

The last date to withdraw from **FALL TERM** courses is **DEC. 7, 2015**. The last day to withdraw from **FALL/WINTER (Full Term)** and **WINTER** term courses is **APRIL 8, 2016**.

REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term because of disability, pregnancy or religious obligations. Please review the course outline promptly and write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at: carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/

Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Documented disabilities could include but not limited to mobility/physical impairments, specific Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/psychological disabilities, sensory disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and chronic medical conditions. Registered PMC students are required to contact the PMC, 613-520-6608, every term to ensure that your Instructor receives your Letter of Accommodation, no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations. If you only require accommodations for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodations to PMC by **Nov. 6, 2015** for the Fall term and **March 6, 2016** for the Winter term. For more details visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/

PETITIONS TO DEFER

If you miss a final examination and/or fail to submit a **FINAL** assignment by the due date because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply a deferral of examination/assignment. If you are applying for a deferral due to illness you will be required to see a physician in order to confirm illness and obtain a medical certificate dated no later than one working day after the examination or assignment deadline. This supporting documentation must specify the date of onset of the illness, the degree of incapacitation, and the expected date of recovery.

If you are applying for a deferral for reasons other than personal illness, please [contact](#) the Registrar’s Office directly for information on other forms of documentation that we accept.

Deferrals of a final assignment or take home, in courses without a final examination, must be supported by confirmation of the assignment due date, for example a copy of the course outline specifying the due date and any documented extensions from the course instructor.

Deferral applications for examination or assignments must be submitted within **5 working days** of the original final exam.

ADDRESSES: (Area Code 613)

College of the Humanities 520-2809	300 Paterson
Greek and Roman Studies Office 520-2809	300 Paterson
Religion Office 520-2100	2A39 Paterson
Registrar's Office 520-3500	300 Tory
Student Academic Success Centre 520-7850	302 Tory
Paul Menton Centre 520-6608/TTY 520-3937	501 Uni-Centre
Writing Tutorial Service 520-2600 Ext. 1125	4 th Floor Library
Learning Support Service 520-2600 Ext 1125	4 th Floor Library