

Latin 100

Instructor : [Jed Parsons \(mailto:jed@socrates.berkeley.edu\)](mailto:jed@socrates.berkeley.edu)

Office Hours : 11–12, M T W Th, 7236 Dwinelle.

Time : 12:00 to 2:00, M T W Th, July 6 through August 13. ([Registration and Catalog info](http://www-telebears.berkeley.edu:3438/0928552243/001038/cweb?_InField1=CWEBC;_InField2=LATIN++100+++;_InField3=99C1;))

Place : [Dwinelle](#)

[Hall \(http://www.berkeley.edu/campus_map/maps/CDEF345.html\)](http://www.berkeley.edu/campus_map/maps/CDEF345.html), in elegant [Room 279 \(http://regssl.berkeley.edu/rooms/room.htx?&x_building=DWINELLE&x_room=279&x_prefix=&x_suffix=\)](http://regssl.berkeley.edu/rooms/room.htx?&x_building=DWINELLE&x_room=279&x_prefix=&x_suffix=).

Purpose and Requirements

In Latin 100, we will read sources that are primarily, though not exclusively, prose from the republican period of Roman history. The course has three main objectives:

1. Review and solidify basic grammar and vocabulary.
2. Develop an awareness of the subtleties of the Latin language.
3. Develop a knowledge of important aspects of Roman culture.

Description

We will spend the first third of the course reviewing the fundamentals of grammar, and reading much of Cicero's *de Amicitia*. This text introduces a number of important cultural features. Chiefly among these, the institutions of the family, social alliances, gift exchange, and trust, will be important for our understanding of the readings to follow. At the same time, we will read some selections by Cicero and Sallust on the Catilinarian conspiracy.

Following *de Amicitia*, we will read a number of texts pertaining to the war between Caesar and Pompey (aka the Civil War). Our sources will include Caesar's own commentary on the war, as well as letters by him, Pompey, and Cicero. We will also read a selection of the *Bellum Hispaniense*. This text, which describes the portion of the Civil War fought in Spain by Caesar against Pompey's oldest son, was written by a soldier in Caesar's army, and is an important source of less literary and more quotidian Latin.

We will by now have read a lot about the cultural standards for self-representation, e.g., *honor* and *virtus*, at least as they apply to men. As we leave the Civil War behind, we will look at some evidence for public expectations of feminine *virtus*. Our sources will be a few poems by Catullus and Martial (whose vocabulary will be familiar to readers of prose), two letters of Pliny, and a poem by Sulpicia (a woman).

All this will provide an introduction to some of the more complex aspects of Roman culture and society. Along the way, we will have read much conversational, epistolary, and ``vulgar" Latin (as the real-life, man-in-the-street Latin is called). This will lead to a greater understanding of the subtleties and variability of the language. It will in particular help us reach a higher level of understanding that goes above the rather artificial rules of the grammar book to the levels of discourse pragmatics and socio-linguistic negotiations that are fundamental to language use in the real world.

Requirements

The syllabus below lists the basic reading plan of the course. There are some important other requirements as well. These assignments are due on the day in which they are listed on the syllabus.

- Four short grammar and reading **quizzes** , which will last no more than half an hour.
- Three **prose compositions**. You are advised that these things can take some time, so don't start the night before.
- A **grammar test** , after the period of the grammar review. This will last one hour.
- A **commentary** on a text of your choice (which is *not* part of our syllabus), minimum two pages.
- A **module** on a grammatical, historical, or literary topic of your choice for the Living Language Textbook. One or two pages. (This will be explained fully.)
- A **final exam**.

Note that on Thursday, a **convivium** has been instituted. It will convene at the Jupiter (on Shattuck by Center). Note also that you may submit a **T-Shirt design**. We'll all vote on what design to print in commemoration of this six week period.

We have 23 days to accomplish what is normally given a semester. Expect to work fairly hard.

Syllabus

July Mon| Tue| Wed| Thu | | 6 | Introduction and hellos | Begin grammar review | Begin *de Amicitia* | | 7 | | 8 | **Prose comp due** | Convivium | | 12 | **Quiz** | | 13 | | 14 | Pick subject for module | | 15 | **Grammar Test** | Convivium | | 19 | | 20 | | 21 | | 22 | **Prose comp due** | Finish *de Amicitia* | Begin Civil War readings | Convivium | | 26 | **Quiz** | | 27 | | 28 | | 29 | **Commentary due** | T-Shirt design submissions | Convivium August | Mon| Tue| Wed| Thu | | 2 | **Quiz** | **Module due** | *Bellum Hispaniense* | | 3 | *Bellum Hispaniense* | | 4 | End Civil War readings | Graffiti, wax tablets, codices | | 5 | **Prose comp due** | Pliny | Convivium | | 9 | **Quiz** | Pliny | | 10 | Sulpicia | | 11 | Review | | 12 | **Final Exam** | Party!

This may change, depending on how things go.

The readings will include

- Cicero, *de Amicitia* 8–9, 16–20, 40–42, 46–47, 56–64, 69–70, 71–76, 91–95, 97–100,

103–end.

- Cicero and Sallust, selections on the conspiracy of Catiline
- Civil war readings:
 - Letters of Cicero
 - Letters of Caesar
 - Letters of Pompey
 - Caesar, *Bellum Ciuile* 3.90–96
 - Some guy, *Bellum Hispaniense* 36–39
- Catullus, poems 49, 70, 87, 58, 5, 7
- Martial, poem 6.43
- Graffiti from Pompeii (from *CIL* IV)
- Correspondence on wax tablets, with Plautus *Pseudolus* 13–73
- Pliny the Younger, letters 4.19, 5.16
- Sulpicia, ``Tibullus" 4.7

Last Modified: 4 Jun, 1999.