



LATN 10100 1, LATN 10100 1 - Introduction to Classical Latin I - Instructor(s): Christopher Simon

Project Title: **College Course Feedback - Autumn 2023**

Number Enrolled: **15**

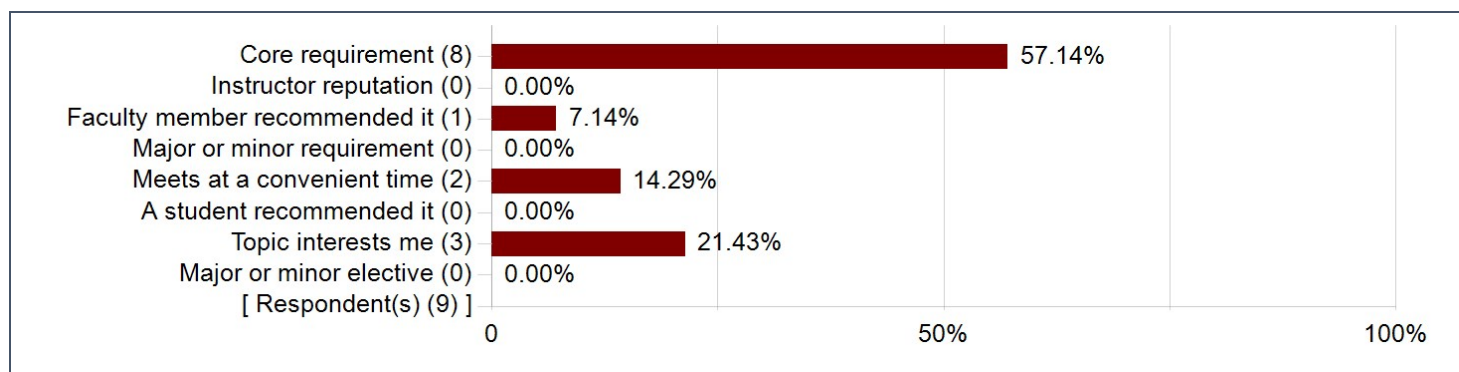
Number of Responses: **9**

Report Comments

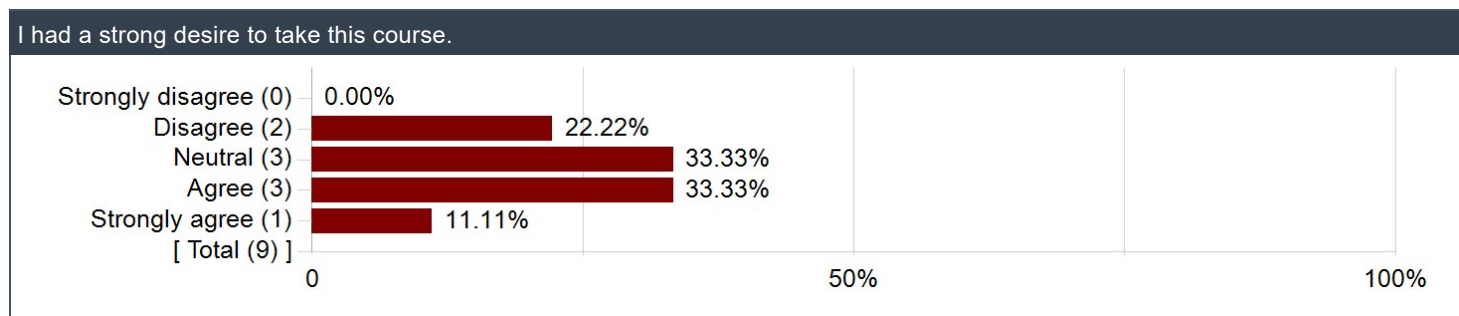
Opinions expressed in these evaluations are those of students enrolled in the specific course and do not represent the University.

Creation Date: **Friday, February 2, 2024**

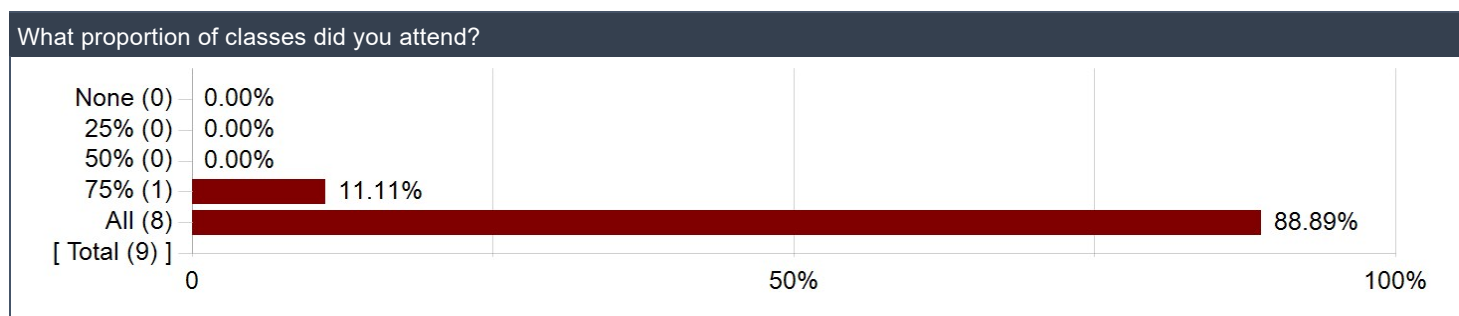
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



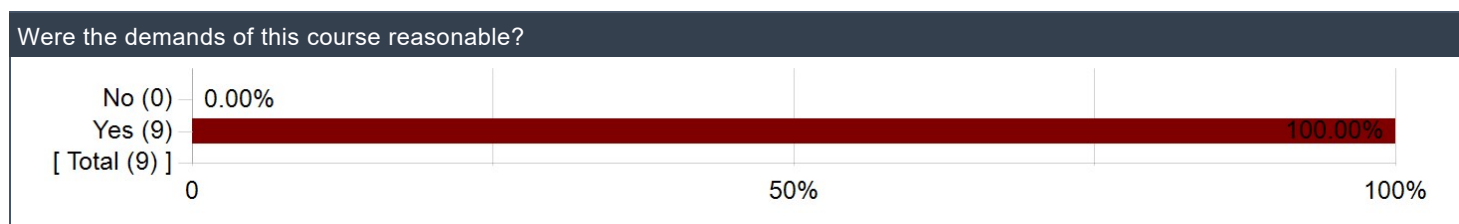
I had a strong desire to take this course.



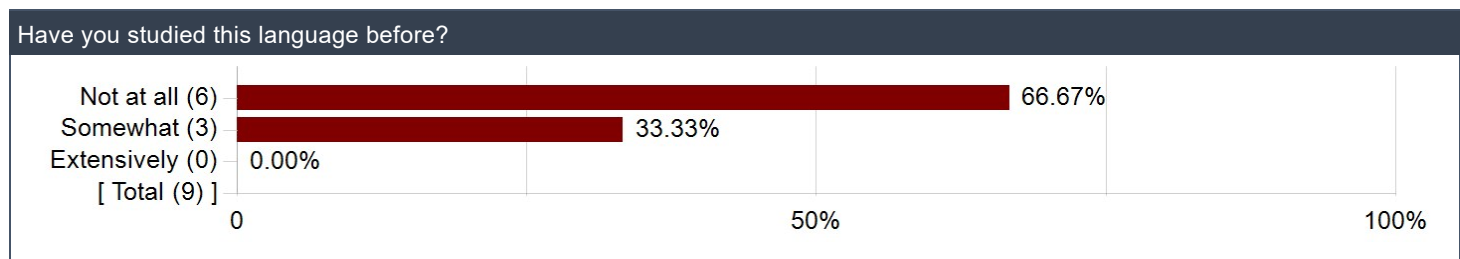
What proportion of classes did you attend?



Were the demands of this course reasonable?



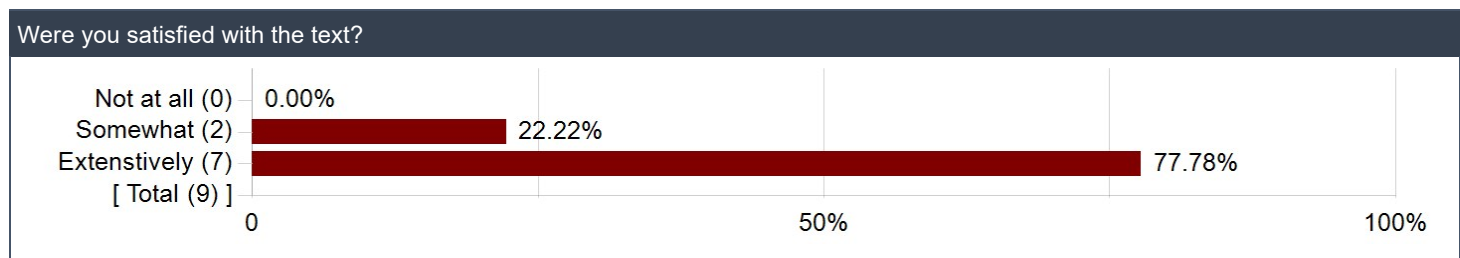
Have you studied this language before?



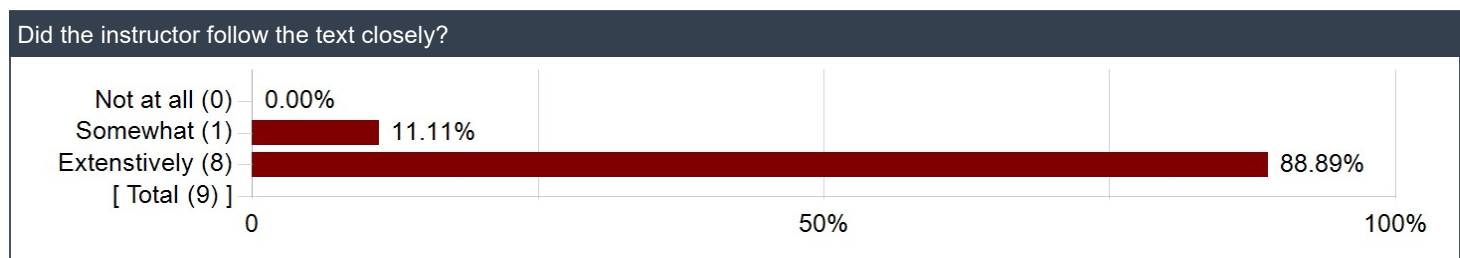
Rate the extent to which different aspects of the language were stressed:

	Mean	Median	Not At All	A Little	Some	A Lot	Extremely	Vigorously
Speaking	2.89	3.00	22.22%	22.22%	22.22%	11.11%	22.22%	0.00%
Spelling	3.89	4.00	0.00%	11.11%	22.22%	44.44%	11.11%	11.11%
Reading	5.33	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	44.44%	44.44%
Writing	4.11	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	44.44%	11.11%	33.33%	11.11%
Grammar	5.44	6.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	33.33%	55.56%
Vocabulary	5.11	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	44.44%	33.33%

Were you satisfied with the text?



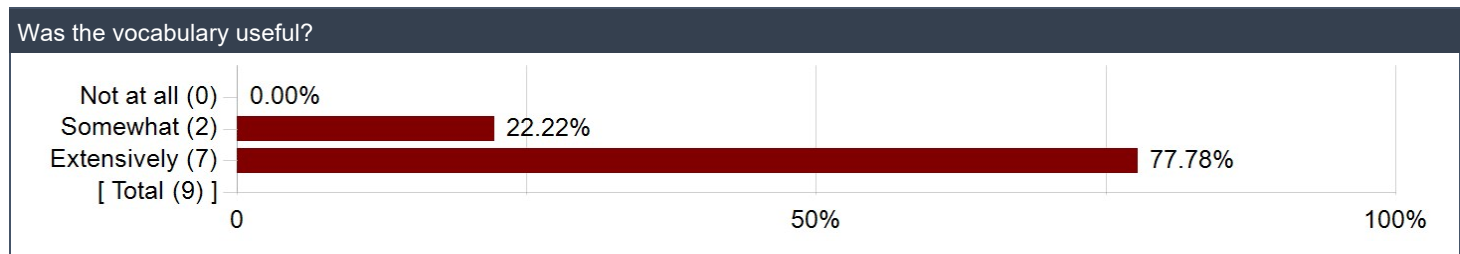
Did the instructor follow the text closely?



Explain:

Comments
Mostly, as far as I could tell
The text was extremely easy to follow and well laid out, though I often barely needed to refer to it because Professor Simon's lectures and explanations of the grammar topics were so clearly explained that my notes were often more useful to me than the text. He remained close to the text in terms of what order to cover topics in, but was not afraid of skipping over certain things (like the vocative) that he thought we would be better served learning later on.
Instructor closely followed the order of the text with a few deviations here and there; some grammar functions deemed less relevant because they were obvious or inherent functions of a given case.
the text was a great compliment to Professor Simon's lectures. He possesses a tremendous ability to simplify what seem like complex concepts. His slideshows are amazing in their content—and their tongue in cheek humor too.
The professor mostly followed the text but expanded on a few grammatical points.
We read lots of different texts and analyzed them thoroughly.
Most homework assignments were assigned from the textbook "Learn to Read Latin" (Keller/Russell) and lectures followed the text very closely
He did, and he was very clear about where he differed from the text and why.

Was the vocabulary useful?

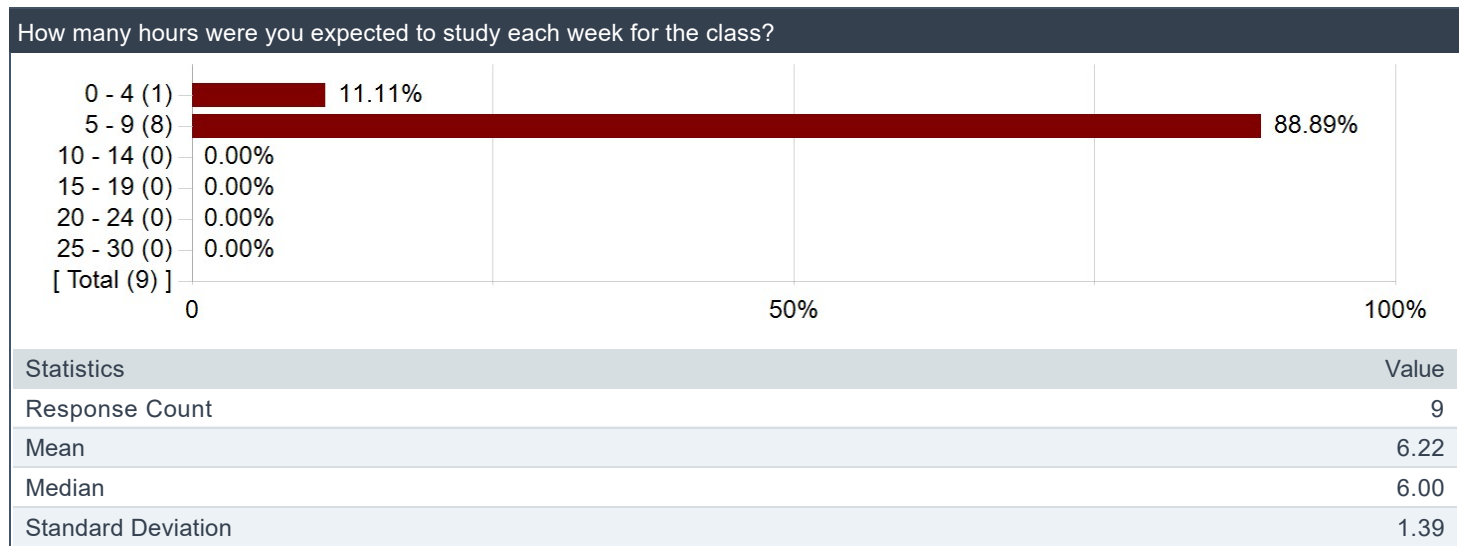


Why?

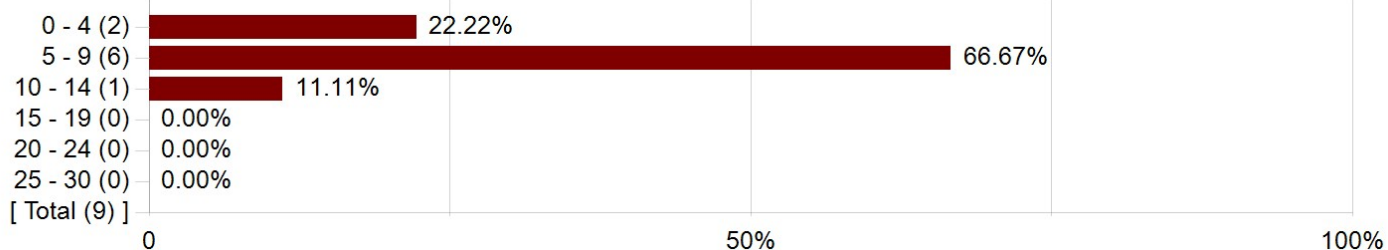
Comments
I mean it is a language so it does help to understand what words mean
Vocab was helpful for interpreting the texts we examined in class.
It was useful because it was reinforced through different means.
extremely relevant to learning a foreign language
The vocabulary allowed us to start reading source texts very quickly.
The vocabulary we learned showed up on tests so it was useful to know it.
Vocabulary was limited in scope and syntax/grammar were (understandably) initially prioritized over vocabulary
Common words

Describe the format of the class (lecture, drills, etc.). Was this format productive? Please be specific.

Comments
Productive lectures and drills
Class was a good balance of lectures, reading/translation practice, and going over homework. Wednesday classes were usually dedicated to reading texts in class, which helped to reinforce skills not necessarily covered in homework. I think it was structured very effectively to reinforce all aspects of our learning, and I have absolutely no complaints.
Class primarily lecture based with time taken for students to go around and give answers on the homework. Wednesday typically spent translating more complex texts, Friday spent on quizzes. I found the lecture productive, but sometimes felt that going around the classroom one person at a time answering questions took up a lot of time.
Lecture and drill; this format was productive because it allowed us to cover a lot of material and still have most of the time dedicated to practicing.
I looked forward to this class. I loved the intensity of this class. Everyone is engaged in large part due to Professor Simon's great energy. He calls on everyone, and his passion for the material is evident. He is an excellent teacher and has baked in amazing resources to ensure that one is digesting the material. Additionally, he is always available to answer questions. He is an excellent instructor.
The format was mostly going around the classroom and giving answers to homework questions and lecture questions. There were also lectures. This format was productive. Prof C is super supportive, and I never felt stressed about having to answer or being wrong.
lectures every Monday Wednesday Friday. Quizzes on Friday usually. Drill session on Tuesday and Thursday (only have to attend one per quarter). One midterm one final one creative project. I found this format to be productive.
3 lectures a week with a requirement of at least one drill session outside of class. This format worked very well, constant engagement with the language was emphasized and easily facilitated.
We would get a lecture or two a week, go over homework, hammer away at concepts in class, and do sight reading.

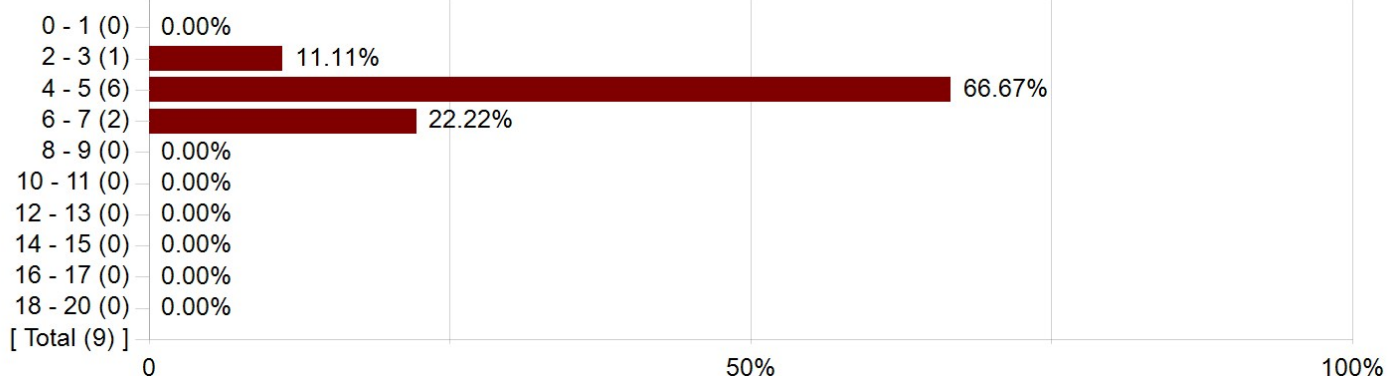


How many hours did you spend?



Statistics	Value
Response Count	9
Mean	6.11
Median	6.00
Standard Deviation	2.71

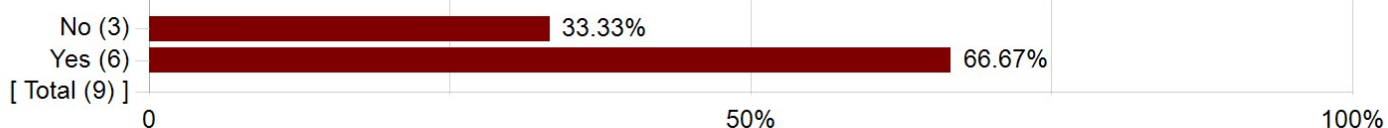
How many written quizzes were given?



Statistics	Value
Response Count	9
Mean	4.44
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.01

Were there daily assignments? (i.e., journals)?

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If there were required outside activities (i.e. foreign films or SCOLA), describe your experience.

Comments
N/A
We were required to go to at least one drill session run by a TA during the quarter. These were generally somewhat helpful, though I found them easier than the material covered in class.
Required to attend one drill session per quarter. Attended an early drill session spent mostly on verbs & pronunciation. It was helpful to work in a smaller group setting and hear how people said certain syllables differently.
N/A
NA

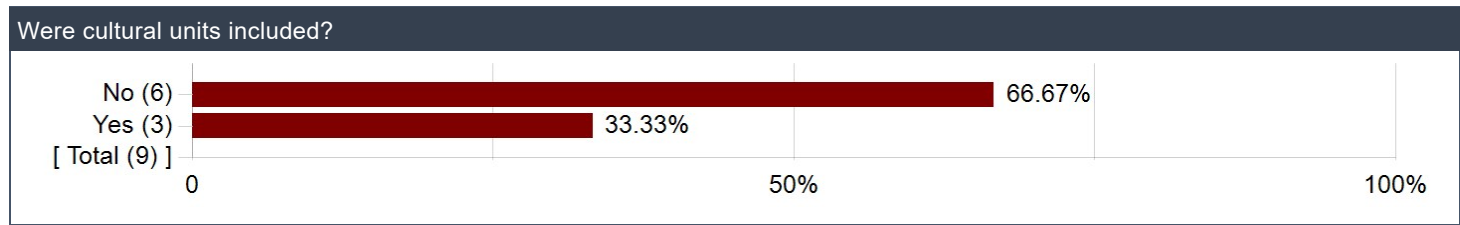
Was your instructor organized?

Mean	Median	Very Unorganized	Somewhat Unorganized	Fairly Organized	Somewhat Organized	Very Organized
5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%

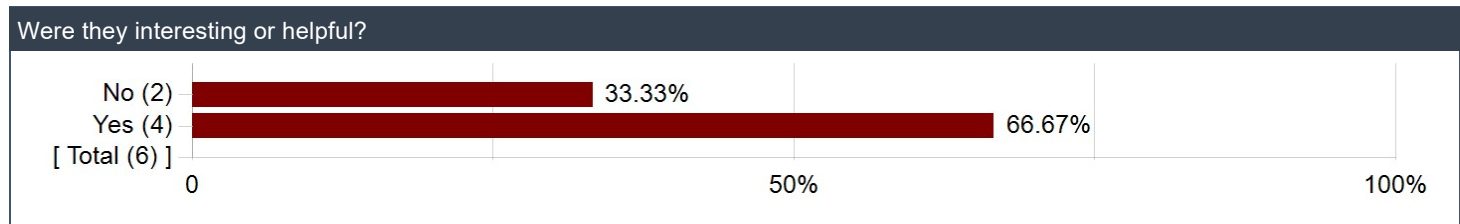
Explain

Comments
I wish homework for the next week had been posted a little earlier each weekend, but other than that never had any issue with the organization of the course or communication of assignments.
Assignments given a week in advance in detailed module format. I always knew what I was expected to turn in and what projects or exams I had to look forward to.
Professor Simon was always very prepared with slides and other materials.
Very professional and very organized.
Prof C often had prepared lectures that were easy to follow and were posted on the canvas for further study.
He always had helpful slideshows for lectures. Always had fun readings for us.
Prof. Simon published all lecture and review materials online at the beginning of each week and prepared extensively!
Prof. Simon was on top of everything.

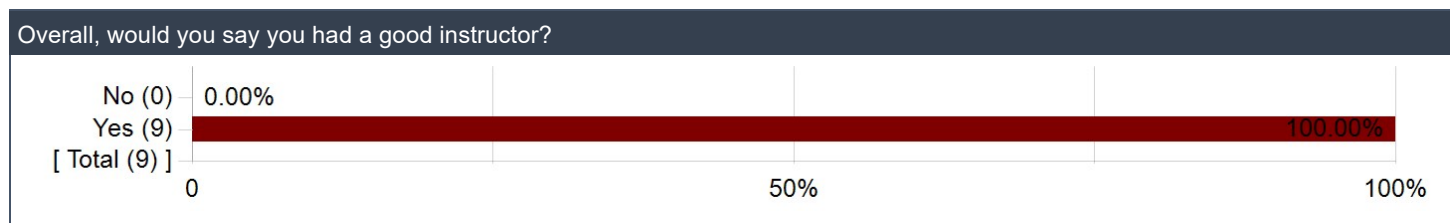
Were cultural units included?



Were they interesting or helpful?



Overall, would you say you had a good instructor?



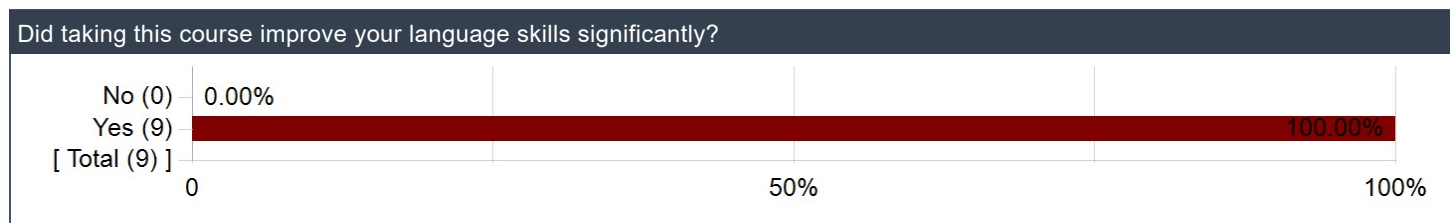
Why?

Comments
We covered a lot of material in this course, but it was all explained and organized so clearly that it never felt unmanageable. Professor Simon knows Latin inside and out, and, beyond that, was truly just excellent at teaching it.
Prof C was clear, well-organized, and very accessible. I felt comfortable asking questions and was able to clear up any confusion quickly.
Absolutely. Professor Simon always expressed respect towards students and encouraged us to learn in every opportunity he saw.
He presents the material in a very easy to digest manner. He is very passionate about the material and has a genuine interest in the success of his students
When I came to UChicago I was dreading the language requirement. Prof C not only made language bearable, but I think he is the best professor I have had at this University. He was incredibly inspiring and his love for the language really came through in his teaching and dedication. His constant kindness and availability made me feel comfortable with making mistakes. I went from wishing I could avoid the language requirement to thinking about taking a second year. If you can, definitely take Latin with him!!!
Prof. Simon was extremely dedicated and engaging throughout the course, always available to answer questions outside the classroom and very understanding. I could not have asked for a better introduction to Latin!
He was very supportive, kind, knowledgeable, and fair.

Please provide your TA's name. Did the TA answer your questions fully and clearly?

Comments
Rebecca Posner-Hess: I went to her drill sessions. She generally ran them quite well and answered questions well, but it was often apparent that she was not fully aware of what grammar we were covering in class, particularly with regards to syntax and translation formulas, which made it difficult because she would sometimes give us information that conflicted with the professor.
Kai Fang: I never went to his drill sessions (I had a class during when they met), so I never had any interaction with him.

Did taking this course improve your language skills significantly?



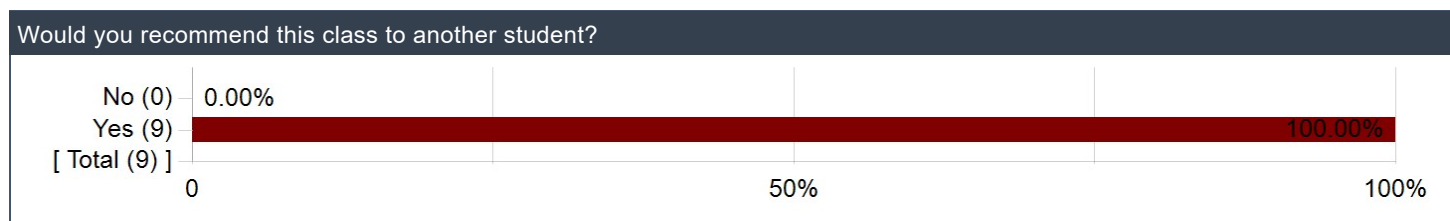
In what way?

Comments
Greater comprehension
I went from not knowing any Latin and from always having disliked language courses to having a good handle on all Latin grammar that was covered this quarter.
Have a much more intricate understanding of Latin grammar and can put together complex sentences from only a few vocab sets.
I feel a lot more aware about word choice and grammar, even in English!
improved grammar
Learning the Latin grammar helped me understand English grammar and made me think about my writing in a more rigorous way.
Going from no experience in Latin to being able to read, speak, and write at an elementary level
I now know basic Latin!

How would you improve this course?

Comments
Slow down on the vocabulary
I genuinely can't think of anything; it was an amazing language course.
It would be interesting to have some short discussions about Roman culture, or to have some assigned short readings on the topic.
I would add more lectures to review material.
I don't think you can—this course was excellent
I honestly couldn't.
Not much to improve, I had an excellent time!

Would you recommend this class to another student?



Why?

Comments
As long as you're willing to put in the work, you will come out of this class with a solid grasp on the Latin covered. This was honestly the best organized and most helpful language class I've ever taken.
Class was enjoyable and made me more interested in learning Latin.
It's a very solid introduction into Latin and classical culture.
the professor is amazing, the material is interesting, and the course load is very manageable
See above
Anyone who is even remotely interested in Latin should seriously consider taking this class with Prof. Simon, he's incredible!
The professor and the usefulness of the material. Plus it's just plain fun to learn languages!