



HIST 5285: Latin and Epigraphy for Historians

Instructor: Dr. Williams (nwilliam@westga.edu)

Class Time and Location: MW 11:00am-12:20pm, PAF 208

Office hours: M 9:30-11:00am, 12:30-2:00pm; W 2:00-4:00pm and by appointment

CourseDen Online Office Hours: W and Th. 10:00am-1:00pm

Office location: TLC 3239 (Office phone #: 678-839-5370) You are always welcome to drop by my office, even outside of office hours, but I recommend calling in advance, to make sure that I am in. During my CourseDen office hours, you may contact me on CourseDen via the chat function.

Course Description:

Research based on archival documents is fundamental to the study of history. Archival materials for ancient historians, however, are very different from the materials available for more recent periods of history. One of the most valuable primary sources for the study of ancient Greek and Roman history is inscriptions – documents written on stone, e.g., epitaphs, graffiti, dedication plaques, calendars, and formal decrees. Working with these sources, however, requires knowledge of the languages in which they are written – Latin and Greek.

In this course, students will receive an intensive introduction to the study of the Latin language while also acquiring a basic competence in one of the main ancillary disciplines that ancient historians use in their research – epigraphy (i.e., writing on stone). Over the course of the semester, students will learn about two thirds of the entire grammar of the Latin language and will acquire a basic reading facility through reading short excerpts in the original Latin from Roman literature, graffiti, epitaphs, and other inscriptions on stone and coins. Students are advised to keep in mind that this is a history course; thus emphasis will be on mastering the elements of Latin most essential for doing research in ancient history.

This class combines both undergraduate and graduate students for the Monday meetings each week. Graduate and Honors students will also meet separately with the instructor for five additional meetings over the course of the semester, for which they will read additional documents and secondary scholarship. See the schedule below for the weeks of extra meetings.

Nota bene: This is a hybrid class (45% online). Since we will only be meeting in class once a week, you will have approximately 10 hours of work for this class each week to complete on your own, including the assignments for Online Days on Wednesdays, and the homework quizzes, due most Mondays in class.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will master the grammar and vocabulary in chapters 1-31 of Wheelock's Latin, 7th Edition.
2. Students will acquire a basic facility in reading Latin prose.
3. Students will acquire a familiarity with Roman material culture and the place of writing in it.
4. Students will learn to identify and read the most common types of Roman inscriptions and the formulaic language used therein.
5. Students will acquire the ability to use different types of ancient primary sources in their research.

Grading Criteria:

Class Attendance and Participation (10%) – attendance and active participation are crucial for success in any class, but especially one in which so much material is covered in every class. If you miss class, it is **your** responsibility to contact the instructor immediately to set up a time to go over any material that you missed.

CourseDen Discussion Participation (10%) – since this is a hybrid class, there will be weekly discussion assignments, for which the initial post is due Wednesday by midnight. Responses can be posted through Friday by midnight.

Quizzes/independent translation assignments (40%) – Students will take a total of 10 homework quizzes over the course of the semester. All quizzes will be take-home and open book/notes, and will always be due in class on Monday. The quizzes should provide an incentive for students to review the material regularly, and will also serve as a diagnostic tool for the instructor in determining which topics may need to be explained in additional detail in class. *Because current research indicates that handwriting (rather than typing) activates additional areas of the brain in learning, only hand-written quizzes will be accepted, unless you have special permission from the instructor.*

In-class Final Exam (10%) – Students will take an in-class final exam on the scheduled exam day/time for this course.

Final Research Paper (30%) – Students will carry out research using primary sources in Latin, culminating in a research paper of 12-15 pages on a topic of their choice, selected in consultation with the instructor. Collaborative projects by teams of two students are allowed, but are expected to result in a longer research paper (24-30 pages for a team of two). Of the 30% of the grade devoted to the final paper, 5% will be devoted to the initial topic proposal.

Required Textbooks for Undergraduate and Graduate Students:

Wheelock's Latin, 7th Edition

http://www.amazon.com/Wheelocks-Latin-7th/dp/0061997226/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1418920606&sr=1-1&keywords=wheelock+edition+7

Anne Groton, *Thirty-Eight Latin Stories Designed to Accompany Wheelock's Latin*

http://www.amazon.com/Thirty-Eight-Stories-Designed-Accompany-Wheelocks/dp/0865162891/ref=pd_bxgy_b_text_z

Keppie, *Understanding Roman Inscriptions*

http://www.amazon.com/Understanding-Roman-Inscriptions-Lawrence-Keppie/dp/0801843529/ref=pd_bxgy_b_img_b

Optional Textbook for Undergraduate and Graduate Students:

Matthew Hartnett, *By Roman Hands: Inscriptions and Graffiti for Students of Latin*

http://www.amazon.com/Roman-Hands-Inscriptions-Graffiti-Students/dp/1585104027/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1420328676&sr=8-1&keywords=hartnett+by+roman+hands

We will be translating selected inscriptions from Hartnett in class, and you may find it helpful to own a copy as well.

Additional Items Required only for Graduate Students Students:

Bowman, *Life and Letters on the Roman Frontier*

http://www.amazon.com/Life-Letters-Roman-Frontier-Bowman/dp/0415920256/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1295896810&sr=1-1

Bischoff, *Latin Palaeography: Antiquity and the Middle Ages*

http://www.amazon.com/Latin-Palaeography-Antiquity-Middle-Ages/dp/0521367263/ref=pd_sim_b_3?ie=UTF8&refRID=0ZM17X9PKQT6R3KF8K6A

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Date	Class Topics	Homework and other Assignments
01/05	<p>Introduction to the dual purpose of this course: Latin and Epigraphy!</p> <p>Inscriptions and the culture of public writing in the Roman world: why inscribe, and why should historians care?</p> <p>Wheelock, chapters 1-2 (1st and 2nd conjugation verbs; 1st declension nouns)</p>	<p>Read Wheelock, Introductio; translate exercises (pp. 7-8, 19)</p>
01/07	<p>Online day: Wheelock, chapter 3 (2nd declension)</p>	<p>Wheelock: Read chapter 3; translate exercises on pp. 28-29;</p> <p>Translate “Pandora’s Box” in Groton, <i>38 Stories</i></p> <p>Post on this week’s CourseDen Discussion Board by midnight on Wednesday, and post responses by midnight on Friday!</p>
01/12	<p>Wheelock, chapters 4-5 (Adjectives; predicate nominatives; substantives; future and imperfect tenses of 1st and 2nd conjugations)</p> <p>Hartnett: Inscriptions 1-5</p>	<p>Quiz 1 due in class; read Keppie, pp. 9-24 before class.</p> <p>Wheelock: Translate exercises on pp. 37, 44-45</p> <p>Groton: “The Tragic Story of Phaethon,” “The Adventures of Io”</p>

01/14	Online day: Latin translation	Groton: “The Tragic Story of Phaethon,” “The Adventures of Io” Post on this week’s CourseDen Discussion Board by midnight on Wednesday, and post responses by midnight on Friday!
01/19	MLK Day; no class!	
01/21	Online day: Wheelock, chapter 6 (<i>sum</i> and <i>possum</i> ; complementary infinitive)	Wheelock: read chapter 6; exercises pp. 51-52 Groton: “The Curse of Atreus” Post on this week’s CourseDen Discussion Board by midnight on Wednesday, and post responses by midnight on Friday!
01/26	Wheelock, chapters 7-8 (3 rd declension nouns; 3 rd conjugation, present tense) Hartnett: Inscriptions 6-12 Graduate Student Meeting I: Prominent inscriptions of the Roman Republic (The Twelve Tables; Senatus Consultum de Bacchanalibus)	Quiz 2 due in class; read Keppie, pp. 25-41 before class Wheelock: exercises pp. 58-59, 67-69 Groton: “Cleobis and Biton,” Laocoon and the Trojan Horse”
01/28	Online day: Wheelock, chapter 9 (demonstratives)	Wheelock: exercises pp. 75-77 Groton: “Nisus and Euryalus” Post on this week’s

		CourseDen Discussion Board by midnight on Wednesday, and post responses by midnight on Friday!
02/02	<p>Wheelock, chapters 10-11 (3rd i-stem and 4th conjugations; personal pronouns; more demonstratives)</p> <p>Hartnett: Inscriptions 15-21, 26</p>	<p>Quiz 3 due in class; read Keppie, pp. 42-59 before class</p> <p>Wheelock: exercises pp. 83-85, 92-93</p> <p>Groton: “Aurora and Tithonus,” “Ulysses and the Cyclops”</p>
02/04	<p>Online day: Wheelock, chapter 12 (perfect active system)</p>	<p>Wheelock: exercises pp. 101-102</p> <p>Groton: “Gift Bearing Greeks”</p> <p>Post on this week’s CourseDen Discussion Board by midnight on Wednesday, and post responses by midnight on Friday!</p>
02/09	<p>Wheelock, chapters 13-14 (reflexive pronouns and possessives; 3rd declension i-stems; some usages of the ablative)</p> <p>Hartnett: Inscriptions 29-34</p> <p>Graduate Student Meeting II: Prominent inscription of the Early Empire (Res Gestae Divi Augusti; De Imperio Vespasiani)</p>	<p>Quiz 4 due in class; read Keppie pp. 60-109 before class</p> <p>Wheelock: exercises pp. 109-110, 118-120</p> <p>Groton: “Echo and Handsome Narcissus,” “Europa and the Bull”</p>
02/11	<p>Online day: Wheelock, chapter 15 (numerals; genitive of the whole; more usages of</p>	<p>Wheelock: exercises pp. 127-128</p>

	ablative)	Groton: "How the Aegean Got Its Name" Post on this week's CourseDen Discussion Board by midnight on Wednesday, and post responses by midnight on Friday!
02/16	Wheelock, chapters 16-17 (3 rd declension adjectives; the relative pronoun) Hartnett: Inscriptions 36-38, 127-128	Quiz 5 due in class Wheelock: exercises pp. 134-137, 142-144
02/18	Online day: Latin translation	Groton: "The Wrath of Achilles," "The Myrmidons" Post on this week's CourseDen Discussion Board by midnight on Wednesday, and post responses by midnight on Friday!
02/23	Wheelock, chapters 18-19 (passive of 1 st and 2 nd conjugations; ablative of personal agent; perfect passive system; interrogative pronouns and adjectives) Hartnett: Inscriptions 40-48 Graduate Student Meeting III: Vindolanda and Roman military inscriptions (Bowman, all)	Quiz 6 due in class; read Keppie, pp. 110-134 before class Wheelock: exercises pp. 150-151, 157-160 Groton: "A Wedding Invitation," "The Judgment of Paris"
02/25	Online day: Wheelock, chapter 20 (4 th declension; more ablatives; present passive system of 3 rd and 4 th conjugations)	Wheelock: exercises pp. 165-167, 171-173 Groton: "The Labors of Hercules" Post on this week's

		CourseDen Discussion Board by midnight on Wednesday, and post responses by midnight on Friday!
03/02	Wheelock, chapters 21-22 (5 th declension; more ablatives; participles) Hartnett: Inscriptions 50-54	Quiz 7 due in class Wheelock: exercises on pp. 179-181, 188-191
03/04	Online day: Latin translation	Groton: “The Golden Age Returns,” “Cicero Reports His Victory Over Catiline” Post on this week’s CourseDen Discussion Board by midnight on Wednesday, and post responses by midnight on Friday!
03/09	Wheelock, chapters 23-24 Hartnett: Inscriptions 61-66	Quiz 8 due in class Wheelock: exercises pp. 188-191, 196-199
03/11	Online day: Latin translation	Groton: “Watching the Orator at Work,” “Caesar’s Camp is Attacked by Belgians” Post on this week’s CourseDen Discussion Board by midnight on Wednesday, and post responses by midnight on Friday! Final Paper Topic proposals due on CourseDen by midnight!

03/16	SPRING BREAK	
03/18	SPRING BREAK	
03/23	<p>Wheelock, chapters 25-26</p> <p>Hartnett: Inscriptions 67-74</p> <p>Graduate Student Meeting IV: Latin palaeography (Bischoff, first half)</p>	<p>Quiz 9 due in class</p> <p>Wheelock: exercises pp. 206-207, 213-216</p>
03/25	Online day: Latin translation	<p>Groton: “The Character of Catiline’s Followers,” “The Virtues of the Orator Cato”</p> <p>Post on this week’s CourseDen Discussion Board by midnight on Wednesday, and post responses by midnight on Friday!</p>
03/30	<p>Wheelock, chapters 27-28</p> <p>Hartnett: Inscriptions 89-95</p>	<p>Wheelock: exercises pp. 221-223, 231-235</p>
04/01	Online day: Latin translation	<p>Groton: “Old Age is not a Time for Despair,” “Two Love Poems by Catullus”</p> <p>Post on this week’s CourseDen Discussion Board by midnight on Wednesday, and post responses by midnight on Friday!</p>
04/06	<p>Wheelock, chapters 29-30</p> <p>Hartnett: Inscriptions 97-101</p> <p>Graduate Student Meeting V: Latin palaeography continued (Bischoff, second half)</p>	<p>Quiz 10 due in class</p> <p>Wheelock: exercises pp. 240-243, 250-253</p>

04/08	Online day: Latin translation	Groton: “Quintilian Praises the Oratory of Cicero,” “Pliny Writes to his Friends” Post on this week’s CourseDen Discussion Board by midnight on Wednesday, and post responses by midnight on Friday!
04/13	Wheelock, chapter 31 Hartnett: Inscriptions 79-80, 105	Groton: “Lucretia: Paragon of Virtue” Wheelock: exercises pp. 258-262
04/15	In-class review for final exam!	
04/20	FINAL EXAM: 11am-1:30pm	
04/22	Final Paper due on CourseDen by midnight!	