

HT6100: Latin I
Reformed Theological Seminary, Atlanta
Spring 2024
Thursdays, 3:55p–5:55p

Brian Gronewoller, PhD
Adjunct Professor
Office Hours: By appointment (Zoom or on campus)
bgronew@emory.edu

Emails sent after 4 PM will receive a response on the next school day.

(1) Course Description

This course is an introduction to the Latin language, particularly Ecclesiastical Latin. Students will concentrate on basic vocabulary and analysis of the grammar of Latin as well as begin to read Christian texts from the early Church and Reformation.

(2) Course Objectives

- I. Students will gain between novice-mid and novice-high reading and listening proficiency levels in Latin. (See the [ACTFL proficiency guidelines](#) for descriptions of these standards.)
 - II. Students will be able both to understand and co-create short Latin stories.
 - III. Students will gain an introductory understanding of Latin grammar.
 - IV. Students will gain exposure to Christian (i.e., Ecclesiastical) Latin through verses from Latin translations of the Bible (e.g., Vulgate), the writings of Latin Christian authors, and the Pater Noster.
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(3) Required Texts

Textbook

Derek Cooper, *Basics of Latin: A Grammar with Reading and Exercises from the Christian Tradition*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Academic, 2020. ISBN: 9780310538998

Latin Novellas

Andrew Olimpi, *Ego Polyphemus*. Comprehensible Classics 7. Peachtree Corners: Storybase Books, 2018. ISBN: 9781963471069.

Andrew Olimpi, *Familia Mala: Saturnus et Iuppiter*. Comprehensible Classics 5. Peachtree Corners: Storybase Books, 2018. ISBN: 9781963471106.

Andrew Olimpi, *Labyrinthus*. Comprehensible Classics 6. Peachtree Corners: Storybase Books, 2018. ISBN: 9781985727137.

Andrew Olimpi, *Lars Romam Odit*. Comprehensible Classics 14. Peachtree Corners: Storybase Books, 2020. ISBN: 9781963471021.

*Brian Gronewoller, *Errores Longi Ulixis, Pars I. Fabulae Epicae 2*. Peachtree Corners: Storybase Books, 2021. ISBN: 9781736785928.

*Brian Gronewoller, *Errores Longi Ulixis, Pars II. Fabulae Epicae 3*. Peachtree Corners: Storybase Books, 2022. ISBN: 9781736785942.

Lance Piantaggini, *Rufus et Arma Atra*. Northampton: Poetulus Press, 2017. ISBN: 9781543203097.

**Do not purchase these two novellas. Students will receive copies at no cost during class.*

(4) Approach and Assessments

There are two essential components of learning any language: (1) language acquisition and (2) learning about the language. The first, language acquisition, is the more important of the two in making progress in a language because it is what enables us to speak, think, write, read, and comprehend the language. The second, learning about the language, involves gaining a knowledge of how the language is structured. One eventually uses this knowledge to help analyze difficult passages and to edit one's own writing in the language. Knowledge about the language becomes an important tool down the road, but it will not help you make much progress in the language at the beginning. This is the rationale for the structure of this class:

90 minutes: Active Language Work (ALW)

30 minutes: Grammar Talk (GT)

Class time will focus on a very active and engaged form of instruction in Latin. There is no substitute for being in class. Between classes students will have assignments which should produce questions that they are expected to ask during the next class.

Assessment will be ongoing in three areas: (1) reading proficiency, (2) listening proficiency, and (3) *probationes aliae*.

Reading Proficiency (40%)

Your reading proficiency will grow based on all of the work that you do both inside and outside of the classroom. Your proficiency level will be assessed over the course of one or more class sessions. The assessment is based on the "Interpretive Rubric" posted on Canvas. Students who would like a reassessment must notify me that they would like to schedule a reassessment within one week of the grade having been posted.

☐ Listening Proficiency (40%)

Your reading proficiency will grow based on all of the work that you do both inside and outside of the classroom. Your proficiency level will be assessed over the course of one or more class sessions. The assessment is based on the “Interpretive Rubric” posted on Canvas. Students who would like a reassessment must notify me that they would like to schedule a reassessment within one week of the grade having been posted.

☐ *Probationes Aliae* (20%)

Throughout the week (via Canvas) and during class, you will be assessed via short quizzes that cover all aspects of our course (textbook, grammar, class stories, etc.).

(5) Technology in the Classroom

It is my recommendation that, during our ALW time, you leave all technology and everything else in your bag. This will greatly aid you in focusing on the discussion that we are having in Latin so that you internalize the language structures. Students are strongly cautioned against using technology during ALW times.

Students are welcome to use technology, pens, notebooks, etc., during our GT time.

(6) Other Policies

(a) Attendance

Since ALW during class time is the backbone of our course, you are expected to be at all class sessions. Missing class will not be directly penalized. It will, however, indirectly affect your acquisition of Latin and, thus, your performance in the class. Please note that this policy is subordinate to any attendance policies contained in the student handbook.

(b) Academic Honesty

I will not tolerate academic dishonesty. This includes plagiarism. Plagiarism is academic theft—a person steals ideas from an internet page, book, article, or some other source and then copies or paraphrases those ideas as though they are his/her own (i.e., without citing the source). Work you submit must be your own. Any infraction will be immediately elevated to the office of the Academic Dean and I will recommend that, at the very least, the assignment be awarded a 0. A detailed discussion of plagiarism is available in the course catalogue and the student handbook.

(c) Zoom Policy

Your professor may allow you to Zoom into class or watch Zoom recordings for excused absences based on the professor’s discretion and subject to the availability of equipment. Students should contact their professor well in advance of the class meeting. For a third absence the Registrar should be consulted. Your professor may require additional interactive

assignments to offset the absence of classroom interaction. Sync or Remote Live courses have priority for the limited Zoom equipment.

(d) Extension Policy

All assignments and exams are to be completed by the deadlines announced in this syllabus, on Canvas, or in class.

Extensions for assignments and exams due within the normal duration of the course must be approved beforehand by the Professor. Extensions of two weeks or less beyond the date of the last deadline for the course must be approved beforehand by the Professor. A grade penalty may be assessed.

Extensions of greater than two weeks but not more than six weeks beyond the last deadline for the course may be granted in extenuating circumstances (i.e. illness, family emergency). For an extension of more than two weeks the student must request an Extension Request Form from the Registrar's Office. The request must be approved by the Professor and the Academic Dean. A grade penalty may be assessed. (RTS Catalog p. 46 and RTS Atlanta Student Handbook p. 18)

Any incompletes not cleared six weeks after the last published due date for course work will be converted to a failing grade. Professors may have the failing grade changed to a passing grade by request. (RTS Catalog p. 49)

(e) Late Assignments

Extensions will be granted only in cases of serious illness or close family emergency. Otherwise, late assignments will receive a penalty of 10 percentage points per day.
