

Latin I

Welcome to Latin I and the new school year!

Official Course Description

The goal of the Latin sequence is to develop the ability to read Latin authors in the original language. Connections to English vocabulary and grammar and to modern culture are emphasized throughout. Latin I introduces students to the elementary vocabulary and grammar of the Latin language and to ancient history, Greco-Roman mythology, and classical civilization through Latin readings and other resources.

What Does This Mean for You?

All our efforts in Latin class will focus on introducing you to the Latin language, Roman civilization, and the continuing importance and relevance of both to the modern world. Class activities, homework, writings, discussions, and individual study will serve to bridge the gap between today and two thousand years ago. Although Latin is today primarily a textual language, we will use elements of the four-skills approach (reading, writing, speaking, and listening) to acquire a working knowledge of the language.

Your Success in Class

Good study skills, regular attendance, and strong self-motivation are key elements for success in any foreign language class. It is crucial for you to complete all daily assignments, participate actively in class, maintain up-to-date notes, review topics and materials frequently, and ask any questions you may have. *Above all, learn the assigned vocabulary and grammar concepts covered in class, and you should have great success in Latin I.*

We will be using the *Ecce Romani* series as our basic texts. These books combine the contemporary and traditional approaches to language acquisition: you learn grammar and vocabulary both by using it in a series of connected readings and by studying abstract concepts of grammar to reinforce and enhance your understanding of what you read. In our readings we will follow the adventures of a Roman family that lives toward the end of the first century of the modern era. Chapters of our books are based on information derived from archeological excavations and Latin literature and provide real insights into life during the Roman Empire. A special tool available to assist you in your study is the world's largest webpage for *Ecce Romani*: <http://www.tabney.com/ecce1.html>.

Many colleges and universities now require successful completion of level two of a foreign language for admission. Two years of Latin **will fulfill** this requirement. Additionally, successful completion of Latin IV/AP will allow you to waive the foreign language requirements at many colleges.

BONAM FORTUNAM!