

FRES 1020:

11-11:50 Tuesdays, room 225 Park Hall

Lingua Latīna: Latin in Rome and the U. S. A.

Dr. Richard A. LaFleur, Franklin Professor of Classics

Office: 234 Park Hall; email rlafleur@uga.edu

Office hours: T-W 4:00-5:00

websites: www.classics.uga.edu/new/course_webages/elem_latin/index.htm

www.wheelockslatin.com

PREREQUISITES: *First-year (freshman) status with no prior formal study of Latin.*

PROSPECTUS: A leisurely introduction to the Latin language for the utterly Latinless. *Lingua Latīna* has been gaining in popularity in American schools and colleges for the last 30 years, especially because of the enormous benefits studying the language can provide—including improved English vocabulary and reading skills, as well as a deeper appreciation of the influences of the multicultural Greco-Roman world upon our own civilization.

In our 15 weekly seminar sessions we will begin by briefly examining the relationship of Latin to English and other languages in the Indo-European language family, and learning the Roman alphabet and pronunciation, and then we will focus the rest of the semester on learning some of the basics of Latin grammar and reading several simple but interesting Latin texts. At the same time, we will gain an appreciation of the omnipresence of Latin in our own language and culture, from the Preamble of the U.S. Constitution to the motto of the University of Georgia and Robin Williams' advice to his students in the movie *Dead Poet's Society* to *CARPE DIEM!*

TEXTBOOKS: *Wheelock's Latin* (6th ed., REVISED) and *Workbook for Wheelock's Latin* (3rd ed. rev.), both in the UGA Bookstore, both inexpensive. If you really get ambitious, you can find *Vocabulary Cards and Grammatical Forms Summary*, as well as the *Latina* software package containing *Latin Vocab Drill* and *Latin Flash Drill* (which drills noun and verb forms), and laminated *Wheelock's Latin GrammarQuick* cards, all with the LATN 1001 materials in the textbook section of the bookstore.

WEBSITES: Visit both the websites list above for LOTS of useful information, Latin drills, the Athens weather forecast (in The Mother Tongue!), pronunciation, etc. The first site has a link to the site for our class, where you can find our syllabus, weekly assignments, and MORE!

ATTENDANCE: One unexcused absence is allowed (excused absences require a physician's note or similar documentation); your final course grade is lowered by one letter for each additional unexcused absence; if you miss class, email me or check the website for the assignment, so you will have it ready to turn in the next week. And please arrive on time: I will!

☺

GRADING/ASSIGNMENTS: Grading is A-F; to earn an A, you must attend each week and be on time, prepared, eager to learn, and have the *Workbook* and other assignments completed and ready to turn in. Assignments will include readings from *Wheelock's Latin* and exercises in the

Workbook, along with occasional small projects and Latin scavenger hunts. *Workbook* assignments must be turned in on the day for which they are assigned and they will be marked and factored into your course grade; late assignments lose one letter grade for each day late. Students who volunteer for **opus in tabulā** (“work on the chalkboard”) at least four times during the semester will be allowed to drop one homework assignment grade. There are no tests or final exam.

PLUS/MINUS GRADING SCALE: A= 93-100, A- =90-92, B+ =87-89, B =83-86, B- =80-82, C+ =77-79, C =73-76, C- =70-72, D =60-69, F =<60.

CULTURE OF HONESTY: *Workbook* assignments must be done independently; copying from classmates is an academic honesty violation. All academic work must meet the standards contained in “A Culture of Honesty” (<http://www.uga.edu/honesty/>); students are responsible for informing themselves about those standards before performing any academic work and for maintaining the highest standards of honesty and integrity in every phase of their academic work. The Honor Code pledge is “*I will be academically honest in all of my academic work and will not tolerate academic dishonesty of others.*” The penalties for academic dishonesty are severe, and ignorance is not an acceptable defense. 📧

This syllabus is a general plan for the course; changes announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.

Carpe diem:
“harvest the day!”

