

Maynooth University
Department of Ancient Classics

Student Handbook
Latin (Language and Literature)
2021 – 2022



"Cicero Denounces Catiline" (1889, Cesare Maccari)

Welcome to the Department of Ancient Classics! The ancient Mediterranean world remains a fascinating and rewarding subject of study, a source of inspiration and ideas even in our fast-changing twenty-first century. Among ancient peoples, the Romans were particularly influential and important, not least because under their empire Latin spread around much of the Mediterranean—the basis for the emergence of Italian, Spanish, French, Romanian, and even English. Maynooth's course in Latin aims to provide you with a solid overview of Latin language and literature, from the basics of grammar to central authors like Caesar, Catullus, Cicero, and Virgil. The following Handbook contains essential information on lecture times and locations, module content, and assessment. If there is information you need which is not covered in this Handbook, please do not hesitate to ask a member of staff for guidance.

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The Department

The offices of all staff for Ancient Classics are in the Arts Building on the North Campus. Each member of the teaching staff is happy to meet students outside class, during weekly consultation hours (details are posted on the Departmental webpage and the staff member's office door) or by appointment.

For general inquiries, please contact the Executive Assistant at the Departmental Office.

For questions more specific to your academic studies, please contact Dr Maeve O'Brien (Director of Latin) or Dr William Desmond (Head of Department).

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Departmental Website

Further information about the Department and its activities can be found online at:
www.maynoothuniversity.ie/ancient-classics

Noticeboards

Important information and updates, along with other items relevant to Classics (e.g. events, lectures) are regularly posted on the noticeboard between offices 6 and 9. Please consult these noticeboards regularly.

The value of studying Latin

For two thousand years Latin was the premier language of the European continent. From Latin came Spanish, French, Italian, and Romanian, while, following the Norman Conquest of England, Latin-French words have come to make up some 60% of modern English vocabulary. This makes Latin of immense advantage and interest to students of English, modern Romance languages, and Indo-European languages in general, while the study of Latin grammar and syntax provides a perfect foundation for other language learning. Because of its long and extensive use, Latin has had a vast influence on literature, politics, and religion. As a result, it makes an excellent companion to other subjects, especially English, History, Philosophy, and Theology.

The BA at Maynooth University caters to this wide range of interests, offering graduated study of the Latin language and its literature from the Roman Republic to the later Empire. In the first year, students work through Jones & Sidwell's *Reading Latin*, with adapted readings from a variety of authors. This introduction is preparation for modules in second and third years, which concentrate on major Latin authors, in both prose and poetry. Here Plautus' comic plays, Catullus' lyric poetry, the histories of Sallust and Caesar, Cicero's speeches and philosophical dialogues, the epic poetry of Virgil and Ovid, Petronius' comic novel, and other select works are read in Latin, with a view both to their language and to their historical and cultural contexts. Through close study of these 'classics', students will gain an intimate knowledge of some of the major writers, periods, and themes of Roman civilization as a whole. Even students who complete just the first-year language course will have a good introduction to Roman literature and society.

Study of Latin at any level is an excellent complement to other studies, and opens a door onto a tradition that has united the European continent from antiquity to the present. It is said that 'the past is a foreign country', and Latin is exceptional and almost unique in the number of past worlds it can open to the enterprising student. In the Europe of today, knowledge of Latin can be a way to distinguish your CV, particularly if you are interested in working in law, government or the European Union, or in such fields as education, curatorship, librarianship and translation. A highly organized language, Latin fosters analytical skills and attention to detail valued by a wide range of employers.

Course (BA) Overview

The Latin course in Maynooth aims to provide you with a solid overview of Classical Latin, the language and literature, from basics of grammar to key authors like Catullus, Caesar, Cicero, and Virgil.

Below is an outline of how a typical BA looks over the course of three years, for a student with no prior knowledge of Latin. Other routes are possible for those with some prior knowledge. If you have passed Latin at an appropriate level in the Leaving Certificate examination (or equivalent), please let your situation be known to Drs O'Brien and/or Desmond at the beginning of the year, and a modified course can be tailored to your needs.

First year. Over two semesters, students cover fundamentals of the language using the Cambridge *Reading Latin* course. The two modules (LN151, 152) are sequential, meet for 4 hours per week, and carry 7.5 Credits.

Second year. Students complete the *Reading Latin* course in LN211, thus solidifying their grasp of grammar and vocabulary. LN212 includes a final grammar review, while offering students a wide range of short texts. Four other modules (LN201, 202, 203, 204) introduce major authors—which may vary from year to year, but typically include four or more of the following: Plautus, Catullus, Caesar, Sallust, Cicero, Virgil, Ovid, Petronius, and Pliny. All modules carry 5 Credits.

Third year. Four modules (LN301, 302, 303, 304) deepen the students' exposure to major authors (as described for second year above), while two independent study modules (LN307, 308) allow students to explore individual authors, texts, or genres, under staff guidance. All modules carry 5 Credits.

N.B. Second- and third-year students take author-based reading modules conjointly. Therefore, for purposes of timetabling and teaching, LN201/301, 202/302, 203/303, 204/304 constitute four “classes,” although expectations and workloads will differ (third-year students being required to cover an appropriately greater amount of material). LN211 and 212 are dedicated to second-year students only, LN307 and 308 to third-years.

First-year Latin: Module details and timetable

LN151 Introduction to Latin, 1 (Dr O'Brien, Semester 1)

This module offers a systematic introduction to the grammar and vocabulary of Classical Latin. Taken together with LN152, the module will enable students to proceed to the guided reading of original texts on completion of the year.

Assessment:

- One (1) three-hour written final examination after Semester 1 (80% of total mark).
- Two (2) hour-long in-class tests (20% of total mark).

Learning outcomes: On successful completion of the module, students should be able to:

- Identify and explain basic Latin morphology and syntax.
- Recognise a broad range of Latin vocabulary.
- Demonstrate the ability to read simplified passages of Latin.
- Demonstrate the ability to compose short phrases of Latin.
- Demonstrate an understanding of general language structures.
- Show broadly applicable skills of language analysis.

Required book purchases:

P. Jones & K. Sidwell, *Reading Latin: Text and Vocabulary*, 2nd ed. (Cambridge, 2016).

P. Jones & K. Sidwell, *Reading Latin: Grammar and Exercises*, 2nd ed. (Cambridge, 2016).

LN152 Introduction to Latin, 2 (Dr Davies, Semester 2)

This module offers a systematic introduction to the grammar and vocabulary of Classical Latin. Taken together with LN151, the module will enable students to proceed to the guided reading of original texts on completion of the year. (Pre-requisite: successful completion of LN151, or a 'C' in Honours Latin in the Leaving Certificate, or equivalent).

Assessment:

- One (1) three-hour final written examination after Semester 2 (80% of total mark).
- Two (2) hour-long in-class tests (20% of total mark).

Learning outcomes: On successful completion of the module, students should be able to:

- Identify and explain basic Latin morphology and syntax.
- Recognise a broad range of Latin vocabulary.
- Demonstrate the ability to read simplified passages of Latin.
- Demonstrate the ability to compose short phrases of Latin.
- Demonstrate a deeper understanding of general language structures.
- Show broadly applicable skills of language analysis.

Required book purchases:

P. Jones & K. Sidwell, *Reading Latin: Text and Vocabulary*, 2nd ed. (Cambridge, 2016).

P. Jones & K. Sidwell, *Reading Latin: Grammar and Exercises*, 2nd ed. (Cambridge, 2016).

Timetable (Hours are the same for both semesters, but the classrooms differ):

Semester 1			Semester 2		
Tuesday	9:00	Hall B	Tuesday	9:00	EHCR
Wednesday	13:00	PB1	Wednesday	13:00	HJ
Thursday	10:00	EHCR	Thursday	10:00	EHCR
Thursday	11:00	EHCR	Thursday	11:00	EHCR

Second-year Latin: Module details and timetable

I. Author-based reading modules

LN201 and 202 (Semester 1), and 203 and 204 (Semester 2) each carry 5 Credits and are taught and assessed in a similar manner.

Assessment: LN201, 202, 203, 204 **each** require

- One (1) 90-minute written final examination (75% of total mark).
- One compulsory coursework essay (25% of total mark). See p. 11 below for essay due dates.¹

Learning outcomes. On successful completion of modules LN201, 202, 203, and 204 students should be able to:

- Identify key syntax necessary for reading the set texts and authors.
- Recognise the vocabulary necessary for reading the set texts and authors.
- Distinguish the major morphological forms necessary for reading the texts and authors.
- Explain cultural and historical contexts for the given texts and authors.
- Demonstrate the ability to read unseen Latin.
- Demonstrate skills of analysis and synthesis that come with close reading of Latin texts.

LN201 Ovid (Dr O'Brien, Semester 1: Monday 15:00 in PB1, Tuesday 12:00 in PB2).

With attention to historical and cultural contexts of the early Empire, students read selections from Ovid's *Metamorphoses* 8, as chosen by the lecturer.

LN202 Cicero (Dr Davies, Semester 1: Thursday 16.00 in PB1, Friday 11:00 in T2).

With attention to cultural and historical contexts of the late Republic, students read selections from Cicero's *Pro Caelio*, as chosen by the lecturer.

LN203 Catullus (Dr O'Brien, Semester 2: Monday 15.00 in T1, Wednesday 16.00 in T1).

With attention to cultural and historical contexts of Catullus' Rome, students read selections from Catullus' poetry, as chosen by the lecturer.

LN204 Sallust (Dr Davies, Semester 2: Wednesday 17.00 in PB2, Friday 09.00 in PB2).

With attention to cultural and historical contexts, students read selections from Sallust's *Bellum Catilinae*, as chosen by the lecturer.

¹ Please note the Departmental "Policy on penalties" (p. 11).

II. Grammar-consolidation and reading modules

LN211 Intermediate Latin 1 (Dr Cadau, Semester 1: Monday 14:00 PB2, Friday 9:00 T5).

In this module, students who have already achieved a basic working knowledge of Latin will be coached in the grammatical knowledge, dictionary skills, and practical techniques necessary for pursuing independent reading and study, with an understanding and with an appreciation of problems in linguistic interpretation.

Assessment:

- One (1) two-hour written final examination (80%).
- One mid-semester class test (20%).

Learning outcomes. On successful completion of module, students should be able to:

- Identify and explain the morphology, grammar, and syntax necessary for reading Latin.
- Recognise the essential vocabulary for reading Latin.
- Display the ability to read Latin from a variety of authors.
- Demonstrate the skills of analysis and synthesis inherent in reading Latin.

LN212 Intermediate Latin 2 (Dr Desmond, Semester 2: Thursday 15.00 in PB1, Friday 11.00 in PB2).

In this module, students who have acquired a good working knowledge of Latin (from LN211 or equivalent) will apply their skills to the guided reading and translation of unadapted and unseen passages of prose and verse.

Assessment:

- One (1) two-hour written final examination (100%).

Learning outcomes: On successful completion of module LN212, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate a full grasp of Latin morphology, grammar, and syntax.
- Recognise the necessary vocabulary for reading unseen Latin.
- Display the ability to read seen/unseen Latin from a variety of authors.
- Demonstrate the skills of analysis and synthesis inherent in reading unseen Latin.

Third-year Latin: Module details and timetable

I. Author-based reading modules

LN301 and 302 (Semester 1), and 303 and 304 (Semester 2) each carry 5 Credits, and are taught and assessed in a similar manner.

Assessment: LN301, 302, 303, 304 **each** require

- One (1) 90-minute written final examination (75% of total mark).
- One compulsory coursework essay (25% of total mark). See p. 11 below for essay due dates.²

Learning outcomes. On successful completion of modules LN301, 302, 303, and 304 students should be able to:

- Identify key syntax necessary for reading the set texts and authors.
- Recognise the vocabulary necessary for reading the set texts and authors.
- Distinguish the major morphological forms necessary for reading the texts and authors at an advanced level.
- Explain cultural and historical contexts for the given texts and authors.
- Demonstrate the ability to read unseen Latin at an advanced level.
- Demonstrate advanced skills of analysis and synthesis that come with close reading of Latin texts.

LN301 Ovid (Dr O'Brien, Semester 1: Monday 15:00 in PB1, Tuesday 12:00 in PB2).

With attention to historical and cultural contexts of the early Empire, students read selections from Ovid's *Metamorphoses* 8, as chosen by the lecturer.

LN302 Cicero (Dr Davies, Semester 1: Thursday 16.00 in CB1.34, Friday 11:00 in T2).

With attention to cultural and historical contexts of the late Republic, students read selections from Cicero's *Pro Caelio*, as chosen by the lecturer.

LN303 Catullus (Dr O'Brien, Semester 2: Monday 15.00 in T1, Wednesday 16.00 in T1).

With attention to cultural and historical contexts of Catullus' Rome, students read selections from Catullus' poetry, as chosen by the lecturer.

LN304 Sallust (Dr Davies, Semester 2: Wednesday 17.00 in PB2, Friday 09.00 in PB2).

With attention to cultural and historical contexts, students read selections from Sallust's *Bellum Catilinae*, as chosen by the lecturer.

² Please note the Departmental "Policy on penalties" (p. 11).

II. Independent Study Modules

Two independent study modules (LN307, 308) allow students to explore individual authors, texts, or genres, under staff guidance. Both modules carry 5 Credits.

LN307 Latin Independent Textual Study (Semester 1, Dr Davies)

Selections from Tacitus' *Annals* and other works will be read closely with the assistance of lexical and electronic tools in order to develop skills in reading, grammatical analysis, translation, and cultural, historical and/or literary contexts. Typical coursework requires about 80 hours of self-directed study, in consultation with the lecturer.

Assessment

- One (1) two-hour written final written examination at the end of Semester 1.

Learning outcomes. On successful completion of module LN307, students should be able to:

- Explain syntax necessary for reading advanced Latin texts.
- Recognise vocabulary necessary for reading advanced Latin texts.
- Distinguish morphology necessary for reading advanced Latin texts.
- Develop skills of analysis and synthesis inherent in reading advanced Latin texts.
- Display the ability to read unseen Latin at an advanced level.
- Evaluate how values and themes are treated in the text.

LN308 Latin Essay Project (Semester 2, Dr O'Brien)

This module offers the student the opportunity to pursue in-depth study and research on one of a range of designated topics that draw upon texts/authors studied in previous second- and/or third-year modules. The aim is to develop research and writing skills at a level beyond those normally required for coursework essays. Typical coursework requires about 80 hours of self-directed study, in consultation with the lecturer. The final essay should reflect extensive reading in primary sources (in Latin) as well as secondary literature—a substantial piece of work to cap the student's degree in Latin.

Assessment

- One (1) essay of c.5,000 words at the end of Semester 2.

Learning outcomes. On successful completion, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate breadth and depth of knowledge in one author, genre, or theme in the Latin corpus.
- Develop broadly transferable research skills (e.g. analysis and comparison of evidence).
- Apply and evaluate different methodologies and scholarly approaches.
- Demonstrate the ability to write effectively at an advanced level.
- Demonstrate a capacity for imaginative, lateral thinking.

Essays, Submission, Due Dates

The importance of writing. Effective and eloquent writing is an important part of an academic training and a liberal education. It is a skill that is in high demand (and low supply) among employers: the ability to write essays well will translate automatically into the ability to write reports, memos, emails, business letters, journal articles, blogs, advertisements, research proposals, and even political speeches! There is no other way to cultivate this vital activity than by practising—and no degree offers as effective a training in writing as an Arts degree. Traditionally, “the Classics” of the ancient world were admired as models of excellence in writing, composition and rhetoric, and some of the greatest writers in English (and other languages) honed their skills in emulation of Cicero, Tacitus, and other Classical writers.

Compulsory essays. With this in mind, all author- or genre-based reading modules (LN201/301, 202/302, 203/303, 204/304) require a coursework essay, typically of 2000-2500 words; in each the lecturer will provide the titles or topics, as well as guidance (pointers, bibliography). The third-year Latin Essay Project (LN308) requires an essay of ca. 5000 words, as detailed above. See due dates below.

Policy on penalties. Ten percentage points (10%) will be deducted for essays submitted up to one week beyond the due date. Compulsory written work submitted more than one week late will not be accepted, unless an extension has been granted by the Head of Department.

Extensions. Extensions will be granted only in exceptional circumstances. If you find yourself in such circumstances (e.g. due to difficult personal issues, a bereavement, or substantial period of illness) and need extra time, please speak with the Head of Department—and do so preferably in advance of the due date. A medical certificate will be typically required as proof of illness. Where an extension is granted, a new due date will be set, and if this date is not met, the written work will be penalized according to the regular policy (as outlined above).

Guidelines for submission.

- Pay attention to the due date, in order to avoid late penalties. Start your essay in good time!
- Proof-read your final draft, to avoid needless mistakes in spelling, punctuation, and formatting.
- Include a word count of your draft.
- Fill out a Departmental Cover Sheet, to indicate that the essay is your own work, and is not plagiarized. (See p. 14 below on plagiarism.) **This Cover Sheet is very important!**
- Attach the Cover Sheet to your essay, so that Cover Sheet + Essay form a single electronic file (e.g. Microsoft Word document).
- Submit your essay file through **Turnitin** in the dedicated link on the Moodle page for the module in question. Your instructor will provide further instructions, as necessary, for using Turnitin.
- That’s it, you can relax for a while!

Due Dates for all written assignments, 2021-2022.

<u>Semester 1</u>	10 December (Friday), 5pm
<u>Semester 2</u>	29 April (Friday), 5pm

Presenting Written Work (Guidelines)

Introduction

This guide is intended to help you with the presentation of compulsory written work in the Department of Ancient Classics. It sets out a number of guidelines that will help you present your work in the best manner possible. Good presentation is an important aspect of good written work, and should reflect the following:

- All written assignments must be **typed**.
- Academic papers usually include both **references** and a **bibliography**, to provide information about sources used in researching the paper.

Sources

Sources are typically either

- primary i.e. ancient works (such as Homer's *Iliad* or Tacitus' *Histories*), or
- secondary, i.e. scholarly books and articles (e.g. Whitman's *Homer and the Heroic Tradition*, or Ronald Mellor's *Tacitus*) which are based on primary sources.

References

When you submit written work, you will make reference to both primary and secondary works. References often come in two forms:

- Direct quote from a primary or secondary source. If you quote an author's actual words, then you **must** put them in quotation marks (''). Not to do so may constitute a form of plagiarism, i.e. intellectual theft.
- Allusion to, use, summary or paraphrase of a *specific and distinctive* idea, argument, interpretation, or piece of information that is specific enough to somehow "belong" to the writer. In this case, again, you should acknowledge the source of this *distinctive* item. General facts and items "which everybody knows" (e.g. the fact that Rome is in Italy) do not need to be referenced. Sometimes, the line between the distinctive and general may be difficult to determine: when in doubt, please make reference to the sources that you have used. If you have relied heavily on a source, then you should acknowledge this, and inform your reader about it.

There are two ways you should include references to primary and secondary works:

1. In parentheses in the main body of your paper. Examples:

Primary sources

- To refer to Book 1, Line 5-7 of Virgil's *Aeneid*, write as follows: '... Virgil alludes to the founding of Rome at the very beginning of the epic (Virgil, *Aeneid*, 1.5-7).'
- Or, if you want to quote the phrase 'political equality was a thing of the past; all eyes watched for imperial commands' from Book 1, Chapter 4 of *Annals* by Tacitus, your paper might read as follows: "... As Tacitus darkly comments of Augustus' regime, 'political equality was a thing of the past; all eyes watched for imperial commands' ..." (Tacitus, *Annals*, 1.4).

Secondary sources.

- To refer to p. 96 of Shotter 1994, write "... your argument (Shotter 1994: 96) in parentheses in the sentence where you use the material..." Such references should contain three items of information: Author Name, Date (of publication): Page number(s).

2. In a footnote at the end of the page. You may include references in a footnote, but without parentheses. References to primary sources should be as above, as should those for secondary sources (e.g. In a footnote: Shotter 1994: 96, but now without parentheses).

Other methods of referencing are possible, and maybe used in other university Departments: if you want to use one of these, please check with the lecturer first, and (if approved) use it consistently.

Bibliography

A bibliography should be included at the end of your paper, listing information about the primary and secondary sources you have referenced. Be sure that the bibliography reflects the following points:

- Alphabetical ordering. Items are arranged according to the author's surname (or standard name in the case of ancient texts). You might find that it is better to have separate sections in your bibliography for primary and secondary sources, but this is not strictly necessary.
- Translations of ancient texts should be cited as follows:
Homer, *The Odyssey*, trans. Anthony Verity (Oxford, 2016)
- Modern books should be cited as follows:
Martin, R. *Ancient Greece: From Prehistoric to Hellenistic Times* (Yale, 2000)
- Modern articles in journals should be cited as follows:
Cartledge, P., 'Hoplites and Heroes: Sparta's Contribution to the Technique of Ancient Warfare', *Journal of Hellenic Studies*, Vol. 97 (1977), pp. 11-27.
- Modern articles collected in a book should be cited as follows:
Potter, D. S., 'Roman Religion: Ideas and Actions', in *Life, Death, and Entertainment in the Roman Empire*, edited by D. S. Potter and D. J. Mattingly (Ann Arbor, 1999), 113-167.

If you are having difficulty with any of this, please do not hesitate to consult with your lecturer.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is presenting someone else's words or ideas as your own without acknowledgement. This includes the use, in whole or in part, of another student's work. Plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty, even theft, and will be treated with the utmost seriousness wherever discovered. Individual acts of plagiarism may attract a mark of zero, and in cases of serious and repeated plagiarism, more serious penalties may be applied by the University. For Maynooth University's policy on plagiarism, see <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/university-policies/academic-policies-procedures>. The Department strongly advises you to read this document.

Every time you quote the words of a modern author, you should use quotation marks and clearly indicate your source by means of a footnote or a reference in parentheses ('round brackets'). Likewise, when you are paraphrasing modern authors, the source should be indicated clearly. See the guide to referencing above.

As a safeguard against plagiarism, each student must attach to the front of both copies of each piece of compulsory written work a copy of the Departmental Cover Sheet, and sign the declaration at the bottom of the sheet. A written assignment will not be accepted without an attached Cover Sheet and completed declaration. Cover Sheets may be downloaded from the Departmental webpage or are available from the holder located outside the office of the Executive Assistant, Departmental Office 9.

Examination Matters

Most modules involve a final exam after the relevant semester. The lecturers will provide details about these exams—the sorts of questions you should expect, as well as materials for focussed review, so you should receive lots of help to do as well as you can.

In addition, you may check past exam papers on the Maynooth Library website: <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/library/exam-papers>. The questions on these papers will give you a sense of what to expect, but in general it is better to focus on the materials in lectures, written assignments and review sheets.

For the procedures concerning the discussion, checking, and appeal of examination results, note the information provided by the Exams Office: www.maynoothuniversity.ie/exams

Important Dates for Academic Year 2021-22

Semester 1 (September 2021-January 2022)

September 20	Lectures start
October 25-29	Study Week (no class)
December 17	Lectures end
January 3-6	Study Week
January 7	January examinations commence

Semester 2 (January-May 2022)

January 31	Lectures start
March 14-18	Study week (no class)
April 15-22	Easter holiday (no class)
May 6	Lectures end
May 9-12	Study Week (no class)
May 13	Summer examinations commence