

**St. Mary's College**  
**Department of Humanities**  
**LAT 101: Introduction to Latin I**  
**Fall 2023**

**Instructor:** Fr. Paul-Isaac Franks  
pfranks@smac.edu  
**Class Schedule:** MTWThF 1:35-2:25 (Rm. 300)  
**Office Hours:** by appointment (email instructor)

**Course Description and Purpose:**

This course is an introductory study of Latin grammar, syntax, and vocabulary for the student with no previous Latin experience, or whose previous Latin study needs consolidating and strengthening. Through a sequence of incrementally more challenging example sentences, students will develop proficiency sufficient to read short literary passages utilizing basic rules of grammar and syntax. For beginners in Latin, and those whose prior training has not been systematic or well-retained, this course aims to give a firm grasp of the grammatical foundations of the Latin language, as well as experience in reading.

**Course Materials (required):**

*Course Pack (provided)* consisting of *Vulgate Verses: 4000 Verses from the Bible for Teachers and Students of Latin*, Laura Gibbs, 2nd edition, January 29 2022; *Latin Via Proverbs: 4000 Proverbs, Mottoes, and Sayings for Students of Latin*, Laura Gibbs, 2nd edition, January 29 2022; and *Epitome historiæ sacræ*, Charles François Lhomond, 1829.

*Latin: An Intensive Course*, Floyd L. Moreland and Rita M. Fleischer, (University of California Press, 1990)  
ISBN#: 9780520031838

*The Bantam New College Latin & English Dictionary*, John Traupman, (Bantam, 2007) ISBN: 9780553590128

*Pugio Bruti - A Crime Story in Easy Latin*, Daniel Pettersohn & Amelie Rosengren, ISBN-10: 9198509403,  
ISBN-13: 978-9198509403

*Lingua Latina per se Illustrata, Pars I: Familia Romana*, Hans H. Ørberg, (Focus; Second edition, March 1, 2011).

**Course Materials (optional but recommended):**

*A Latin Dictionary*, Lewis, Charlton T, Short, Charles ISBN-10: 1999855787

*Ossa Latinitatis Sola*, Foster, Daniel P. McCarthy (The Catholic University of America Press, November 2, 2016) ISBN: 9780813228327

Legentibus: Learn Latin APP

**Grade Distribution:**

Quizzes:	20%
Homework:	25%
Tests:	25%
Final Exam:	30%

#### QUIZZES, TESTS, AND WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS:

- Quizzes will be given daily, or nearly daily. They will be announced, and the material for each will be clearly defined. Latin I requires a lot of memorization, and short daily quizzes will help you with this. The average of each week's quizzes will be entered as one "quiz" grade. At the end of the semester the lowest "quiz" grade will be dropped. Any quiz missed without a legitimate excuse may not be made up. Quizzes missed with a legitimate excuse must be made up within one week. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor that a quiz was missed, explain the reason, and schedule a make-up quiz if possible. At the end of the semester, each student's lowest quiz grade will be dropped.
- Tests will be given at the end of each unit. They will be announced. The policy for making-up a missed test is the same for missed quizzes except that only for a very serious reason will the instructor permit a make-up test. Normally, a formally excused absence or a doctor's note will be necessary. At the end of the semester, each student's lowest quiz grade will be dropped.
- Written assignments (translations) will be assigned to be completed outside of class as homework throughout the semester. The purpose of this work is to practice reading and applying the grammatical principles studied to Latin sentences. Submissions should be your own work. If you are stuck, you should ask the instructor for help, rather than submitting group work that fails to meet the SMC standards regarding plagiarism and academic integrity. Plagiarism will be taken very seriously, and if major will earn you a failing grade for the class. (This includes confirmed use of AI technology to complete your translations for you) For minor incidents of plagiarism, you will receive a zero for the assignment.

#### ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Attendance at each lecture is considered mandatory. **A student with five or more absences without previously granted permission will risk a grade-reduction or loss of credit for the course at the discretion of the instructor.**

#### INCOMPLETE WORK:

Assigned work that is not handed in will be given a "0". Assigned work that is tardy may suffer a 10% grade reduction for each day that the assignment is late.

#### CLASS PARTICIPATION:

Successful learning occurs only when the student is actively focused on the class lectures and discussions. It is the student's responsibility to assimilate new material, to synthesize it with previous material, and to see to it that any gaps in his/her understanding be recognized and resolved. Therefore, students are strongly encouraged to ask questions pertinent to the topic.

If students find special difficulties with the material or any portion of it, they should not hesitate to email or arrange a meeting with the teacher, who – since he wants nothing more than that they truly understand and profit by the class – will strive to help them in assimilating the matter to the extent possible. Ideally this should be done more than a week before the test or final exam.