Please note: this is the old version of the syllabus, the new version precedes this page

CONVERSATIONAL LATIN

LAT 250, SPRING 2008
Monday, 2-2.50 HH 403
Prerequisite: Latin 203

Dr. E. Del Chrol 304/696-4323
chrol@marshall.edu Harris Hall 412
Office Hours: Monday 2-4, Tuesday 3.15-4.45, Wednesday 9-10, 2-4, Thursday 3.15-4.45

Required Text:

Traupman. 2006. *Conversational Latin for Oral Proficiency (4th Edition).* (Bolchazy-Carducci)
Allen. 2003. *Vox Latina: A Guide to the Pronunciation of Classical Latin.* (Cambridge)

Suggested texts:

Miller (ed). 2007. *Conversational Latin for Oral Proficiency (4th Edition), 2 disc CD.* (Bolchazy-Carducci)
A medium-sized dictionary
A good grammar, like Allen and Greenough or Gildersleeve

Goals

There has been a resurgence of oral Latin in America and around the world. Numerous new Latin CDs, books (both "New-Latin" and translations of contemporary novels like "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone (*Harrius Potter et Philosophi Lapis*)"), summer courses, and interest groups have sprung up in the last ten years, and there are now oral proficiency standards as part of the National Board Certification. This course aims to introduce the basic skills of oral comprehension and composition of Latin, as well as sharpening your facility with the correct pronunciation of Latin. We will accomplish these goals with three sets of exercises performed each day in class:

Dictatio: where the instructor will read a short passage of Latin and students will transcribe it then answer short questions on the content.

Structured conversation: where the students will use example dialogues from the textbook to gain familiarity with new vocabulary and constructions, and to practice simple transformation of the examples for different situations.

Free conversation: where students will discuss in pairs a topic pertinent to the week's readings.

Grades

Your grade will be composed of the following:

Class Participation and Homework	50%
Performance	10%
Midterm	20%
Final Examination	20%

As this is a conversation course you will need to converse. Don't worry about sounding dumb or clumsy, we all will at the beginning. Should a Roman appear and begin criticizing you, your pronunciation will indeed be the least of your worries. For a good grade in CLASS PARTICIPATION you need an explorer's spirit, a cheerful demeanor, and a willingness to attempt all the exercises we do in class. HOMEWORK is essential as it is the foundation for each day's class. *If you do not prepare you will look stupid and rightly so.*

PERFORMANCE Toward the end of the term you will be required to perform a brief (1-2 minute) section from ancient literature. You will be graded on pronunciation, fluidity and how well you convey the ideas of the passage through your reading.

The MIDTERM and FINAL EXAMINATION will consist of a *dictatio* and a one-on-one conversation with the instructor.

- University representatives (members of athletic or scholarly teams, academic ambassadors) must present their list of classes to be missed by the end of the first week of classes. Those with documented disabilities who anticipate requiring special accommodation also ought to present their materials by the end of the first week, though reasonable fore-warning will be acceptable. Other documented catastrophic crises will be handled on a case-by-case basis. Employment and regularly scheduled medical appointments will not count as documented catastrophic crises.

Schedule

Week 1: *Introduction* – Syllabus, how do we know what Latin sounded like? *Introduc te*

Week 2: *Talking about yourself*

HW: Read Traupman, Chapter 1; Allen, Introduction 1-11; 102-15; Commit to memory Allen 132-3

Week 3: *House and Home*

HW: Read Traupman, Chapters 2-3

Week 4: *Work and Play*

HW: Read Traupman, Chapters 4-5

Week 5: *Body and Body Building*

HW: Read Traupman, Chapters 6-7

Week 6: *Food and Time*

HW: Read Traupman, Chapters 8-9

Week 7: **MIDTERM**

Week 8: *Expressions of Time and Colloquialisms*

HW: Read Traupman, Chapters 10-11

Week 9: *Clothing and School*

HW: Read Traupman, Chapters 12-13

Week 10: *Buying and the Weather*

HW: Read Traupman, Chapters 14-15

Week 11: *Animals and Emotions*

HW: Read Traupman, Chapters 16-17

Week 12: *Trades and Civic Life*

HW: Read Traupman, Chapters 18-19

Week 13: *Government and War*

HW: Read Traupman, Chapters 20-21, pick a piece for your PERFORMANCE and clear it with the instructor

Week 14: *Law, Geography and Transportation*

HW: Read Traupman, Chapters 22-24

Week 15/Dead Week: **PERFORMANCES**

HW: Prepare your Presentation

DATE: FINAL EXAM