

The Twelve Tablets

Latin Prose & Poetry: Republic

SECOND SEMESTER

Magister's Contact Information

E-mail: egoodman@polytechnic.org

Telephone: (626) 396-6522

My main office is in Munger-111 on North Campus. You may come at any time.

South Campus Office Hours: Monday Lunch; Wednesday 2:15-3:15 (E Block + Conf.); Thursday 8:15-8:50 (X period) and 10:05-10:25 (Common Time); Friday Lunch. I will be in Room 314 during these times. If for any reason 314 is not available, I will be in Magistra's office.

Iter Nostrum

This year we will move through a variety of texts using four approaches guided by the following questions:

when reading **historical narrative**: How do I develop an understanding of cause and effect relationships, politics, leadership, and role modeling through reading historical narrative?

when reading for an understanding of **gender**: How do we use literary and epigraphic sources to learn about the ways Romans defined gender?

when reading **speeches**: How does an author use rhetorical devices to influence others?

when reading **poetry**: How does the poet define a poem's persona?

We will navigate the path below. Throughout the year we will read from *Ancient Rome: An Introductory History* by Paul Zoch. Titles in **bold** should have been purchased from the Poly bookstore.

Unit III: Cornelia Gracchi and the Roman Woman (Gender)

Sources: Handouts of Cornelius Nepos, Sulpicia, and the *Aeliae Potestas*

Unit IIII: Turmoil in Town (Speeches)

Sources: **Introducing Cicero, Letters to Terentia and Tullia**, *Cicero: Imperator Rumorum*



*Clodia Metelli,
First Woman of Rome*

Unit V: Counter-Culture Poetry (Poetry)

Sources: Handouts of Catullus and Ovid

Unit VI: The Death of the Republic (History)

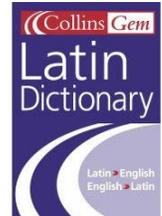
Sources: **Introducing Cicero**, Handout of *de Bello Civile Iulii Caesaris*

Unit VII: The Birth of the Empire

Sources: Handout of *Res Gestae Divi Augusti*

Throughout the year, I will give you handouts and other readings. You are expected to keep them organized in a folder or binder.

As to the matter of a Latin-English dictionary, I recommend the Collins Gem Latin Dictionary (ISBN 0-0470763-X). If you already own a Latin-English dictionary, you should not buy the Collins Gem.



Speaking in the Classroom

During the third quarter, Magister will use Latin phrases throughout class. By the final quarter, you will be expected not only to understand Magister speaking solely in Latin but also to converse in Latin yourselves. Everyone (even Magister!) will make mistakes. Everyone (even Magister!) will learn from his/her mistakes.

Speaking in class is graded as follows: for every grammatically correct comment, you receive one *calculus* (i.e. counting stone i.e. poker chip). In each 45-min. period you should try to earn at least one and in each block at least two. For every week you **must** earn at least 8 calculi. Magister will tally calculi at the end of every period.

Participation, Homework, and Major Assessments



Participation: Participating fully in class does not require one to always have their hand in the air first. Speaking cogently, singing joyfully, doing in-class work responsibly, engaging in games, and the like all qualify as full participation credit. The Classroom Behavior Rubric contains guidelines and my expectations. During the second semester, speaking Latin is required for participation: Magister will give one *calculus* (i.e. poker chip) for each robust Latin question or answer in class. Students should earn at least one calculus per class and must at least eight per week.

Homework: Nightly homework assignments may vary from worksheets, to readings in Zoch, to (most commonly) reading Latin in preparation for the next class period. Nightly reading homework will accompany a worksheet to help you pick out important parts of passages on your own. Throughout a unit there will be ungraded activities for practice and self-correction, graded activities to practice for major assessments, and at least one major assessment.

Major Assessments: Major assessments include quizzes, tests, presentations, and projects. I reserve the right to give quizzes unannounced. Major assessments other than quizzes will be announced AT LEAST two weeks in advance.

Extra Credit: Students may propose doing additional work to boost their grade. Extra credit assignments may take any form but MUST be approved by Magister in advance. Depending on the nature of the assignment, the points may be allocated to either the participation or homework parts of one's grades.

Grading: Content, Process, Product

All assessments big and small (i.e. everything from daily worksheets to oral activities to exams) will be graded on three different main criteria: content, process, and product. Each assignment is worth a total of 10 points. For each assignment, there are 3 product points, 3 process points, and 4 content points. Here is the standard rubric for all assignments:

Content: Content is the information and skills that are being tested.



Did I show that I learned the material? Can I recall important facts and definitions? Can I show that I understand the facts and ideas? Can I use the skills in new situations (e.g. Can I sight read Latin passages?) Can I analyze and synthesize information?

Process: Process is the way an assignment is completed. Did I turn the assignment in on time? Did I plan and execute the assignment responsibly?

Did I set specific goals? Did I manage time appropriately? When I needed assistance, did I find it?

Did I edit my work effectively?

Product: Product is the aesthetic quality of the work. Is my work neat? Is my work legible?

Does my work show that I put care into its presentation? Did I follow the formatting or other aesthetic guidelines?

Unless you turn in sloppy or late work, you should receive full credit for process and product.

This means if you turn in completely incorrect homework earning 0 for content, you should receive 6/10.

Grade Breakdown

Participation: 20%

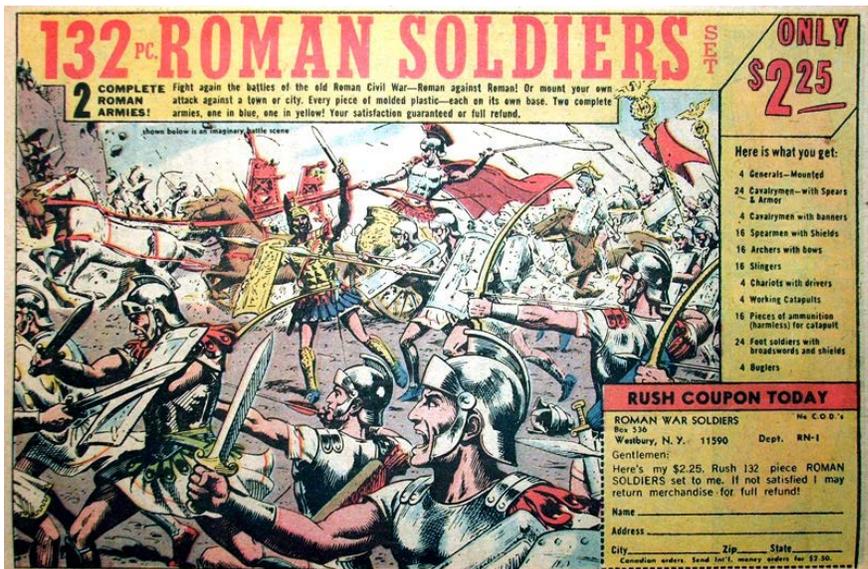
Homework: 25%

Major Assessments: 35%

Semester Exam: 20%

As Cato the Younger would have disapproved of poor behavior, participation points will be deducted should students be notably rude or disruptive. Cell phones, laptops, and other electronic devices are strictly forbidden from the classroom without the explicit permission of Magister. If a cell phone rings or vibrates audibly during class, five participation percentage points will be deducted from the cell phone's owner.

Texting during class is never tolerated. In the interest of fairness, should Fortuna frown upon Magister (which almost never happens) and *his* cell phone should ring or vibrate audibly during class, all students will receive five participation percentage points.



Clementia and Communication

I will give you twenty-four hours of *clementia* for any assignment, quiz, or major assessment **as long as you communicate with me by 9 pm the evening before**. You do not need to tell me why. You may receive *clementia* once each semester. The assignment will not receive the 10% penalty for

the duration of the 24-hr. extension. However, if the assignment is still overdue past the 24 hours, the 10% penalty will be applied from the **original** due date.

If you have any questions about what the homework is or how to do it, please e-mail me at egoodman@polytechnic.org. I will do my best to reply to all e-mails sent before 8pm. If you e-mail me an assignment, I must confirm receipt of the assignment. If I do not reply to your e-mail saying that the file works, **you cannot assume that you have turned in the assignment**. I recommend bringing a hard copy in case you have not received a reply.

Corrections for homework and other assessments may be done until you receive a 4 on Content. Corrections should be on a separate piece of paper and must be turned in with the original assessment. Corrections do not affect Process or Product scores.

Contacting Magister

Please e-mail me (egoodman@polytechnic.org) or call my office phone (626-396-6522) anytime. I do mean anytime. It is better to let me know of an issue at 1 am than at the beginning of class. Please feel comfortable to come to me with any issue.

Contacting Home

If after speaking with you, you are still having difficulty with homework or class time, I will speak with someone at home so we can work out a way to get things back on track. According to the policy set forth by Dr. Neilson and the grade-level deans, I will contact home after **three** missed or sub-par events. A sub-par event is one that stands out from your previous performance as being lower than the existing range of scores. I will also contact home about any assignment that is equal to or lower than a C- (for Sophomore and Junior students) or a D+ (for Senior students). If you perform outstandingly well on an assignment or make a significant improvement, I will contact home and boast of your accomplishments. Grade-level deans will be notified of all communications home. You have access to your grades via engrade.com.

