

# LATIN 1A COURSE SYLLABUS 2024



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Class Web Page (Quia): <https://www.quia.com/pages/sfisher370/latin1a2024>

Adobe Connect: <https://lukeionproject.adobeconnect.com/sflat1a/>



The purpose of this course is to launch you into a serious study of Latin. When you start, you will likely know almost nothing about Latin (this is true even if you have played with Latin for a while in your studies). **If you are sufficiently determined**, eventually you will be able to translate any Latin at hand. Think about it this way: you are about to learn how to read a language that has remained in use for almost 3000 years. **It is not a dead language, but alive and well in French, Spanish, Italian and many other modern languages.** It is the backbone of dozens of Romance languages (meaning languages from Rome) as well as the language of science, medicine, and law. Latin is also foundational to understanding English. Soon you will be able to use English expertly, thanks to Latin. This is one of the most practical courses of study you will ever pursue. Congratulations, you have chosen wisely.

The task of learning Latin requires **work, thought, self-control, determination and effort**. Even if everything else you study comes easily to you, Latin will still require these five things. If you normally have to work hard to master a scholarly topic, Latin will be no different for you. Latin is the great equalizer. All of you will be richly rewarded for your efforts, but nothing will come effortlessly.

You will be using the best high school/college-level text available: **Wheelock's Latin, 7<sup>th</sup> edition**. Your textbook balances grammar with plenty of real Latin translation to help you learn everything you need to know to read your new language. There are a lot of other books on learning Latin. *Wheelock's Latin* is the tried-and-true one and the standard. This text will prepare you to read Classical Latin ("Golden" and "Silver") as well as later Latin commonly known as *vulgar* or *ecclesiastical* Latin. Learning "Classical" Latin will allow you to read Latin from any era.

I will do my part to help you rise to this challenge, but you must do the hard work of mastering this new skill. There is no such thing as being naturally 'good at Latin.' If you are diligent, Latin will pay off. **You will either work hard to learn... or you will not.** Commit now to doing what is needed to learn. This syllabus will guide you in how to do that, so please read *all of it*.

THIS SYLLABUS LETS YOU KNOW ALL THE EXPECTATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS OF THIS COURSE UP FRONT. **YES, IT IS LONG, BUT YOU ARE EXPECTED TO UNDERSTAND AND ADHERE TO EVERYTHING IN THIS DOCUMENT. IGNORANCE IS NOT BLISS AND THIS SYLLABUS IS LEGALLY BINDING.** PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO READ IT CAREFULLY AND, IF ANYTHING IS UNCLEAR, ASK FOR CLARIFICATION RIGHT AWAY.

**The mission of Lukeion Latin 1 & 2: with the help of a dictionary and determination, you will be able to read any Latin prose or poetry by the end of second year Latin.**

## LUKEION LATIN 1A COURSE EXPECTATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

### WORK/DEADLINES SYNOPSIS:

- **Vocabulary Quizzes**, when assigned: Due ANY TIME up to Thursdays at 7 pm ET (open on Tuesdays at 8 am ET)
  - Vocabulary quizzes (only) are two-attempts up until the deadline – Quia will keep the higher score.
- **Homework translation assignments:** Due ANY TIME up to Fridays at 7 pm ET (open on Tuesdays at 8 am ET)
  - Homework may be entered multiple times up until the deadline but should be submitted only once.
- **Quizzes/Exams:** Due ANY TIME up to Mondays at 7 pm ET (open on Fridays at 8 am ET)
  - Quizzes may only be entered ONE TIME up until the deadline and must be submitted when opened.

Homework and quizzes are all submitted online by visiting the class webpage and clicking on the appropriate link when scheduled. Your class webpage is <https://www.quia.com/pages/sfisher370/latin1a2024>. If your schedule takes you away from home during the semester, you can submit work from any computer anywhere there is a dependable internet connection, both here and abroad. Late work is never accepted without advance arrangement or for well-documented, witnessed, horrendous disasters. Travel is no excuse for late work.

### A NOTE TO PARENTS/GUARDIANS/ADMINISTRATORS:

- You are able to view your student's course contributions, progress, and grades at any moment, day or night, all semester by accessing the student's account in the [Quia Student Zone](#). I do not have access to student usernames/passwords, so be sure to save a copy of this for your student when you sign-in. Since you have 24-7 access to student progress, I do not send out midterm grades. *If you belong to an institution that requires one, please request this at least one week in advance of your deadline.*
- If your student stops turning in work for this course at any time, the responsibility falls on you to sleuth out the matter and encourage the student to return to a productive course of study and to contact me, if warranted, about the situation. You will be more in-tune with the flagging spirit in your individual student than I can hope to be. I send out regular class emails to announce when quizzes and homework have been graded for the whole class. Reserve a minute or two each week when these come out to look at your student's progress in Quia to make sure they are staying on-track.

### COURSE RESOURCES: TEXTBOOK, CLASS WEB PAGE AND ONLINE CLASSROOM:

1. **Wheelock's Latin 7th edition** (I recommend the hardcover). *Do not purchase the kindle edition as a primary resource since the pagination does not align. Do not purchase the workbook.*
2. **Quia Class Web Page:** This is the platform that hosts your class page. All homework and quizzes get submitted on Quia through the class page: <https://www.quia.com/pages/sfisher370/latin1a2024>. Quia is also where you can log into your own personal account to see your scores after work is graded: <http://www.quia.com/studentZone>
3. **Adobe Connect Page:** This is the platform which hosts your live, online classes each week. <https://lukeionproject.adobeconnect.com/sflat1a/>

There are NO FEES associated with your use of the online tools. All of these services cost The Lukeion Project and are therefore covered by your tuition. All online tools require programming on my part and are therefore subject to human error. If you believe a resource or link should be on your class page or a recording should be available, but you do not see the link, please [contact me](#) for help. Quia and Adobe support cannot help you with files and course specifics which are exclusively the intellectual property of The Lukeion Project.

4. **Wheelock's Latin web page:** download MP3s of ALL vocabulary, pronounced in Latin for you. *Because you have this web source available, I will not always pronounce your vocabulary aloud during precious class time.* It is still important to hear these words pronounced.  
<http://wheelockslatin.com/chapters/introduction/introduction.html>
5. **Flash Cards:** do not purchase pre-printed flash cards. Use card stock or 3x5 cards cut into pieces. For the best sized flash cards without all the chopping, you may want to invest in a box of pre-cut blank flashcards such as those found here (click [here](#) for a link).
  - Writing out flash cards is part of the study process. Don't skip this. I KNOW there are sets of preprinted cards for sale. Make your own to ensure you think through each word.
  - An online set of flash cards is available for *supplemental practice* and for a change of pace, only.

**All Latin 1a students must attend the live or recorded session of the Lukeion Latin Student Orientation prior to the start of class and read The Care and Feeding of Quia document found on the Quia class page. Students should also read the other documents available on Quia, especially Making Great Flashcards and Top 10 Techniques to Master Greek and Latin, for direction on how best to succeed in this class.**

## SUCCESSFUL LATIN STUDENTS WILL DO THE FOLLOWING THIS SEMESTER:

1. **Communicate with the instructor for themselves.** Do not have a parent or guardian communicate on your behalf unless you are extremely ill and cannot otherwise reach your keyboard. This is a high-school level course. Behave accordingly. I do not write college recommendation letters for students who do not communicate directly with me.
  2. **Come to class on time each week and participate.** This includes answering questions asked in class and asking questions (both in class and by email) when you need clarification. Part of your semester grade is based on attendance and participation, including what you do in class and the time you log into review games on Quia. If you are constantly silent, late, absent, or inappropriate there will be a negative impact on your grade.
- \*Chat Box Etiquette:** To keep the classroom a happy and productive place for all students, here are a few guidelines that must be followed:
- *All messages must be polite and respectful; do not insult anyone or anything, even as a joke*
  - *No profanity will be tolerated*
  - *Avoid contentious topics like politics, religion, or sports smack-talk*
  - *Do not post web links or advertisements for any web sites or products in the chat. If you have something you'd like to share with the class, send it to me first and if it's appropriate, I'll post it on the class page or send it out to everyone.*
3. **Complete short vocabulary quizzes AS ASSIGNED.** Follow your syllabus schedule at the end of this document because you will not be given a vocabulary quiz each week. They *usually* correspond to the first week of a new chapter but always check the syllabus schedule to be sure. These 10-15 minutes quizzes are always due by Thursdays, 7 pm ET.
  4. **Submit weekly homework assignments online, on time, each week.**
    - Homework may be submitted from **Tues. 8 am ET until Fri. 7 pm ET each week.**
    - Homework may be entered multiple times but may be *submitted* only once. I only grade your first actual submission, so do not hit the submit button until you intend to submit your work.

See the **Latin Homework FAQ's** and **The Care and Feeding of Quia** documents on your Quia class page for more detailed information about homework, including accessing submitted assignments, and understanding fully how Quia works.

If you wish to end a Quia session early without submitting, close the browser (x) without hitting submit. **BEWARE: Your work will not automatically be saved, so make sure you have it saved somewhere else before closing out without submitting.**

- There WILL BE additional grammar questions about the sentences you have translated each week. These will be reasonably simple to answer IF you have paid attention to the Latin as you've worked. You will not be given credit for the homework if you fail to answer these grammar questions or skip translations.

- If the link to submit work is not visible in Quia at the appropriate time, send me an email and I'll fix it.

- If the link to submit work says that the quiz is unavailable or you do not have access to that quiz, **please check that you are within the time frame for the**

**assignment and are clicking the correct link before emailing me.** Be sure to read the link title – don't just assume it's the last one on the list. The Quia links will stop working at the published deadlines and you won't be able to get in outside of the parameters of the assignment.

- Always Check to ensure that Quia has recorded your work each time.
- **Compare homework sample answers to your own translations each week.** These are visible as soon as you submit your work – **you do not need to wait until the assignment is fully graded to check your translations.**

**PRO TIP 1: Do not wait until the last minute to do your work.** Allow at least 5 minutes to copy/past your work into Quia AND at least 15 minutes to answer all of the of the grammar "Spot Check" questions each week. The settings on Quia disallow anyone from slithering in late and unseen.

**PRO TIP 2: DO NOT do your work straight onto Quia.** Quia does not save as you go along, so working straight onto Quia is a sure-fire way to lose it if you lose your internet connection or Quia times out. Complete your work on your own device. Save, copy & paste it into the link provided on Quia.

#### 5. Complete weekly online chapter quizzes online, on time, each time.

- Regular quizzes are always available from **8 am Friday until 7 pm ET on Monday each week**, so plan accordingly. You may not take the quiz after the deadline.
- **Unless stated otherwise in class by the instructor, all quizzes are single-attempt with no do-overs.**
- Check to see if Quia has recorded your quiz after you submit it **each time**. If the work is improperly submitted, **catch the error prior to the deadline lapse and email me immediately.** I do not listen to pleas for help if you didn't discover the issue until *after the deadline*. You will be given a zero and a sad trombone.
- Go to the Quia student zone again **after I have announced class results** to see your personal graded results.

**6. Complete midterm and final comprehensive exams on time as published.** Both are weighted, and neither will be dropped for purposed of course grade calculation. It pays to work extra hard in prep for these exams.

**BE AWARE OF THE FOLLOWING RULES: THEY APPLY TO ALL WITHOUT PREJUDICE OR MALICE:**

**RULE 1: I do not accept late homework or quizzes**

- Homework and quizzes may be submitted only within the timeframes of their stated windows.

- If you ask for an extension, I will not normally provide one unless there is a reason that one should be granted to the entire class. Please do not take this personally, this is the rule and it applies to everyone equally.
- Extensions will NOT be granted except in cases of **genuine, serious health emergencies or major cataclysms** such as tornado, flood, housefire, locust plague, alien abduction (sniffles, hang nails, and busy schedules are not included).
- Situations to which the entire class is subject (like national emergencies or pandemics) do not constitute grounds for an extension. The instructor will announce if deadlines change for the entire class.
- Stress or being overwhelmed is an indicator that you need to rethink your schedule and priorities. In and of itself this is not a health emergency and is *not grounds for an extension*. If you find yourself in this situation, please email me for tips on how to work more effectively.
- On the rare occasions that an extension is granted, it will be brief and extremely limited in scope. An extension is never carte blanche for continued extensions. This applies equally to students who begin the course late or take a long trip mid-semester.
- *In the event of an extreme health emergency, you will still need to submit all of the course work by the end of the semester for credit that semester or else you may need to repeat the course the next time it is offered.*
- Never assume that an assignment has been canceled or does not exist because of a class break such as Thanksgiving or Spring Break. **I do not cancel assignments**. The last page of the syllabus provides a full semester schedule of deadlines. This is the ultimate guide to what and when things are due.
- Do not despair! One missed homework assignment will not tank your grade, nor will one missing quiz, since I drop the lowest score in your quiz average. But beware! Missing more than one homework or quiz **will** impact your course average. If you miss an assignment, instead of begging for an extension, put your energy into thinking about what went wrong and how best to avoid another mishap in the future.

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**Note:** *Busy lives are no excuse for failure to submit work or reason to request personal, private due dates or grade adjustments. Most Lukeion students lead super-busy lives, including many with professional careers. **The busiest students rarely ask for special concessions because time management is already a BIG part of their success story.** If you are having trouble completing your work on time, this is a golden opportunity to work on time management and arranging priorities.*

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**RULE 2:** *You are responsible for checking to ensure that Quia has recorded your homework or quiz after you submit it.*

- Why?! It is up to you to confirm that your work has been submitted correctly and is visible in Quia.
  - **HOW TO DO THIS:** Go to <https://www.quia.com/studentZone>, click on the class title (Latin 1a), click the link for the assignment title. Find the work you've submitted in place if all has gone well. If it is there, all is well. If it is not there, it has not been submitted properly.
  - **WHAT TO DO IF THE SUBMITTED ASSIGNMENT ISN'T THERE:**
    - **Homework:** If you are within the time frame you can just enter the link a 2<sup>nd</sup> time to submit the work as usual. No worries. Your empty and abandoned first attempt will be visible to me as a clearly distinguishable non-submission and the first you submitted will not have been recorded (if Quia truly ate your work, your 1<sup>st</sup> submission is marked as "abandoned").
    - **Quizzes/Exams:** Email me BEFORE the deadline passes for help. I will reset that exam ONLY if it appears Quia is to blame and the evidence is in place to support this fact.

Quia keeps track of all entries into the system, even for the shortest amount of time. Quia will retain a receipt that you entered the system but will NOT keep work that is NOT properly submitted. Quia is infallible. "Quia ate my homework" is not a viable excuse after the deadline.

- If you fail to check your work and it is not properly submitted, you will earn a zero (0) for the assignment *IF it is not submitted before the deadline passes.*
- **The time to remedy submission issues is always before the deadline.** Requests to reset assignments sent after the deadline will always be rejected. I look at the email time stamp.
  - *Resetting any assignments is at the instructor's discretion.*

**RULE 3:** *You are responsible for immediately comparing sample answers to your own homework translations each week*

**I MISSED THE DEADLINE – CAN I JUST HOP INTO QUIA LATE TO SEE WHAT I MISSED?**

*The short answer is sadly no, and here is why: This is a lesson in time management. When you misuse your time, you start asking others to spend their time helping you get back on track. Letting you into Quia for a few minutes when you missed the deadline uses my time and --penalty free--prevents you from maturing in this area. The penalty for a mismanaged week is YOUR loss of opportunity to improve your Latin.*

Answers to homework translations are visible **instantly** once you submit your work each week (except the PSQ). Always compare correct answers to your own work while the Latin is fresh in your mind. **This is an absolutely essential step in your Latin study.** There are no “A” grade students that skip this step. This is where real learning is found. If you come across something you don’t understand, email me.

*NOTE: Do not lament if homework is graded too slowly. The learning process takes place when you prepare the work and compare it to the sample answers, not when I give your work credit several days later.*

**RULE 4:** *You are responsible for looking over quizzes and understanding what you missed and why*

Please be aware that **a quiz is not graded until I have graded it.** While you CAN look over a quiz and understand what the computer has marked incorrect immediately, many parts of it need to be adjusted or graded by me personally and what appear to be problem are usually resolved when I go through them.

Always wait to send a note about “unfairly” missing points for a correct translation until AFTER I have graded the quiz. I will make an announcement by email to the whole class when a weekly quiz has been graded.

**PRO TIP:** Legitimate complaints about missed points are well-received. These should be polite and provide full details with the quiz number, the question number and what you think was mistaken. Incessant quibbling over quarter points, however, is seldom productive and poorly received by educators. Therefore, quibble/wheelde prudently.

## WHAT ABOUT PLANNED ABSENCES?

If you are not available during the homework or quiz windows (a family trip, competition, etc.), make a specific appointment (date and time window) at least 48 hours in advance **TO TURN IN HOMEWORK OR TAKE THE QUIZ PRIOR TO THE ABSENCE.**

Your request should be something like this: “I am John Doe from the 10:15 Latin 1 class and I need to take the quiz and turn in work early. I can do that September 13 from 9 am until noon.”

Why do I need such a specific time? Quia is a complicated program. At my end, controls look like I'm flying a commercial jet. You have to help me program a SPECIFIC window of time for work to be submitted that is outside the 'norm' for the rest of the class. Please be helpful by being specific and arriving for your 'appointment' on time.

## COMMUNICATING WITH THE CLASS

I will use the email address you (and/or a parent or guardian) submitted on your registration form to contact you. It is up to you to manage changes in your email address and your spam/junk filter to be sure you are getting class emails. I have no way of knowing if you have changed email addresses, unless you contact me to let me know.

**If you are not getting a class email every 7-10 days, check your spam filter and then contact me to make sure we have your correct email.** If you think that your emails are not getting through, I can check our database history for specific dates and times to help you find an answer.

**Personal emails:** I will respond to your emails as directly as time allows. If you have a question about grammar/vocabulary or if you have a request for completing work before a quiz or you have been deathly ill and need some Latin help, etc., include your parent's email address in the communication by clicking the "cc" button at the top of your email. This means that all student/teacher emails will be viewed by your parent as well.

**PRO TIP:** Make my email [sfisher@lukeion.org](mailto:sfisher@lukeion.org) a safe sender for your in-box. Also, add yourself/parent to the Lukeion Project on Facebook, Instagram and the eNews list (go to [www.lukeion.org](http://www.lukeion.org))

**If I am gravely ill or have serious technical difficulties which require class to be canceled, I will email the whole class as soon as I am physically able to do so, or I will have another instructor email on my behalf. In an extreme emergency such as a natural disaster, etc. I will rely on our Lukeion Project Facebook page to give out information.**

## ARE THERE RECORDINGS OF THE CLASSES?

I will record each of our class sessions and these will be available by email request at [sfisher@lukeion.org](mailto:sfisher@lukeion.org). Recordings are to be watched streaming, not downloaded, within a week of the class missed. Passwords are changed weekly.

Please be advised that recordings are a courtesy and if a recording is not available for any reason whatsoever, students are still expected to complete work and quizzes as assigned on the syllabus without grounds for an extension. As usual, I will be available to answer questions by email within reason, but it is the student's responsibility to proceed with the course as usual.

Please be sure to abide by the following important rules for using the recordings. Failure to do so may result in having your recording access privileges revoked:

- **Do not distribute them (or a link to them or the password) to people who are not registered for this course as this would be a violation of copyright laws.**
- **Do not replace the live sessions with recordings for the purposes of completing the class unless you have arranged to do so with your instructor. Skipping classes may count against your final grade**

## DROPPING THIS COURSE/REMOVAL FROM COURSE

There is a 2-week cut-off date prior to the start of the semester. Before this date, a maximum 75% refund may be given. Why not a full refund? We do not charge a registration fee, rather we retain a portion of the tuition to cover work-hours already committed to matriculation and other non-refundable fees we pay on behalf of each matriculated student.

No refunds will be issued 14 days before the start of class and after. A student may be switched to another course/section or possibly be given a future course credit (with no cash value) if a drop is requested very early in the semester and at the instructor's discretion. No credit should be expected after the second week of the course.

*If a student stops attending the class, stops doing the work, or is removed for dishonesty, the instructor's obligation to the student ends.* No additional grading or evaluation will be done, and no grade transcript will be issued at the end of the semester.

Students who fail to submit 5 of their homework assignments or miss 5 quizzes are unable to pass the class. Either of these situations constitutes a withdrawal from taking the class for credit. The student may be permitted to continue attending class as an "auditor," but will not receive a course transcript.

**FAILURE TO COMPLETE THE COURSE:** In the event of an extreme health emergency, students are nevertheless expected to submit all course work, including the final exam, by no later than Tuesday, December 10 at 7 pm ET, at which time the instructor's obligation to the student ends. If this is not possible, the student may need to repeat the course the next time it is offered. If the student's health emergency takes place early in the semester, tuition credit (or partial credit – no cash value), may be given.

## SKILLS FOR SUCCESS IN THIS CLASS

- **Develop and maintain a regular Latin study schedule.** Decide in advance on times to study, submit homework and take quizzes each week then stick to your schedule whenever possible.
- **Practice some Latin every day.** You are learning a new language. Even a genius will spend time each day learning Latin...in fact that is what made him or her into a genius.
- **Take personal responsibility for the quality and intensity of your study.** Choose to do the self-tutorials at the back of the book to give yourself extra practice. Complete my online games every week. View the occasional 'bonus recordings. Finish extra sight translations (just ask me for some). Email me if you are having trouble – I might have a mnemonic aid or a study strategy.
- **Complete your assignments with honesty and integrity.**

## ACADEMIC HONESTY

Enrollment in any Lukeion Project course assumes a commitment to 100% academic honesty and cheating or dishonesty in any form will result in serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with what constitutes academic dishonesty and the corresponding penalty at the Lukeion Project with the information below:

**Be sure to download and read The Lukeion Project Academic Honesty Policy found on the Quia class page. Failure to read or understand this policy will not exempt you from consequences of dishonesty.**

**“Cheating” or “Dishonesty” includes but is not limited to:**

1. Looking at any type of notes or books (including but not limited to your textbook or a dictionary), or any online resources during any **quiz or exam**.
2. Submitting any work that is not purely the product of your own intellect/efforts. Including but not limited to:
  - a. Submitting answers copied from anywhere that is not your own personal work
  - b. Submitting answers that were told to you by a peer, a tutor, a website, a large hat, or a sibling.
  - c. Siblings or friends who work together must not submit identical or even near identical translations and quizzes or they will be called out for dishonesty. Siblings/friends can study together but they must not translate together at the same time and submit identical answers. Comparing translations with one another AFTER they each have been individually submitted is safer/better way to learn together.
  - d. Also unacceptable is adapting or paraphrasing internet or in-print translations.
  - e. Submitting homework only to check and improve your answers based on the samples and then resubmitting work that is not your own based on the samples is dishonesty. For this reason, credit is only given to your first homework submission. If you must close Quia before submitting translations for homework, just click the “x” in the upper right corner so that the sample answers do not appear before you have had a chance to submit your work.
  - f. “Accidentally” entering quiz links in advance to get a look at questions early is dishonesty. Any patterns of entering quiz links “accidentally” will constitute grounds for removal from the course.

*Quia and I keep a record of all requests to reset quiz links, even for a millisecond. Do not open any quiz until you are ready to take it since resets, even for accidents, give you an unfair advantage over your peers and will ultimately be denied. If Quia consistently eats your work, try another browser.*

If I find evidence of cheating or dishonesty, I will assemble the evidence and contact the parent/guardian (not the student) to announce that the student has been removed from the course without further discussion. In most cases the student will be immediately removed from the course without a refund, grade, credit, nor rights of access to additional graded materials.

*In some cases where there is true remorse and a solid parent/student plan for success in Latin without dishonesty, a second chance will be awarded. **This should be considered a courtesy and is completely at the discretion of the instructor.***

*Have a photographic memory? If you have the natural ability to memorize everything you read, verbatim, that’s awesome! But it isn’t translating Latin. **All translations must be your own. There are zero excuses for using another person’s translation.** The same goes for psychics. Think about it – if you are remembering or channeling it, you’re still not providing your own translations. (And yes, I have heard these defenses multiple times.)*

**GRADES:**

Quia maintains a full record of your quiz scores and credited homework throughout the semester. They are visible until about one month after the class ends. I will tally your scores and send you a semester grade transcript which will be completed by the end of December.

Quia will average all homework and quiz scores together because it is a simple program and therefore **your course average will not be identical to your “quiz average” on Quia**. In my own grade book, students receive a cumulative grade for homework and an averages score for quizzes. I combine these scores with the midterm and final exam to determine a student’s final semester score. (For a ballpark mid-semester grade average only your weekly quiz scores.)

Your course grade is determined as follows:

- 40% Quiz Average (Averaged vocabulary quizzes = 1 regular weekly quiz score; lowest score dropped)
- 20% Homework and Class Participation
- 20% Midterm Exam
- 20% Final Exam

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### How is homework scored?

You can read more about this in the Latin Homework FAQs download found on your Quia class

- You are given a grade based on homework completion, not on perfection. If you turn in only a portion of the work for an assignment you risk a zero in my gradebook
- You must complete a very high percentage of each homework assignment for a grade of “complete.” Fall beneath that line and you receive a zero in MY GRADE book regardless of what credit Quia records: Homework is always FULL credit or NO credit.
- Credit is only given for concerted efforts. Non-sensical translations or paraphrases earn no points. *This pertains to both grammatical questions and translations. Non-serious efforts or omissions will result in a grade of “incomplete.”*
- Credit will usually be given within two weeks after the homework is submitted, if not sooner.

**Note: “Correct” in Quia is not to be interpreted as perfect work. Likewise, I will not comment on every single thing missed in a translation. Always check the sample answers for corrections and improvements.**

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### How are quizzes and exams scored?

- Part of every quiz and exam is computer scored. Part is not. Your final score must wait until everyone has submitted the quiz and I personally grade it. I will send an email to everyone to report in general terms how the whole class did to help you gain perspective on your work. If you are in a small minority at the bottom of the grade scale, there’s a good chance that you need to double down.
- **For chapter quizzes I will mention the 3 highest scores by name**—something to shoot for! Win a virtual gold, silver, or bronze medal for those with an Olympic spirit and fierce determination.
- Vocabulary quizzes are averaged together (minus the lowest one) and that score is averaged in as one quiz score with the weekly quiz scores to determine the quiz average.

Grades in Latin are a good way to measure progress in the language. Those who are regularly earning 90-100% on quizzes have mastered some fierce study skills and the necessary Latin details. They have the determination and self-control to consistently apply those skills. Those who regularly score in the 80% range understand the Latin but lack the determination to master the finer details like proper spelling and vocabulary. If you tend to bounce up and down from 70s to 80s, you are missing too much Latin data. Read “Top 10 Techniques to Master Latin and Greek” on your class page. Sometimes working harder is not the answer, working better is the key.

My grade scale for this course (this applies to quizzes, midterm, final, & course grade):

Letter Grade	Numeric Grade	What that means in this Latin class
<b>A+</b>	97-100	WOW! Optimus!! Maximus!!
<b>A</b>	94-96	Hold your head high; get a second slice of pie: Melior! Maior!
<b>A-</b>	90-93	Bonus, Magnus!
<b>B+</b>	87-89	Almost there... you need a tad more study time to master details
<b>B</b>	84-86	You are NOT mastering details like vocabulary and forms
<b>B-</b>	80-83	Just getting by... get back into your Latin, review to recover quickly
<b>C+</b>	77-79	You are <b>confused</b> and lost, <i>get serious about Latin immediately</i>
<b>C</b>	74-76	This is the lowest passing grade... RED ALERT!!!! ALARM!!!!
<b>Fail</b>	73 or below	<b>Yikes! You can't go on until you have re-learned what you missed</b>

HOW TO PACE YOURSELF FOR SUCCESS IN LATIN

*Don't Fool Yourself*

Worst Case Scenario: a few months into your Latin study, you may find yourself attempting 3 - 4 hour marathon cram sessions once-a-week. You will be productive during the first hour. By the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> hour, you will be sleeping on your Latin book, playing a frivolous app, or texting friends to gripe about Latin. No doubt you will count all 4 hours as perfectly good "study" hours and fool yourself into believing you are not 'good' at Latin (even though we both know you only spent part of one hour doing any real language). After 2 weeks like this, your grade may slip into the Red Alert Zone and you will begin to despair. Here are some study tips to help you avoid unnecessary stress and drama:

**#1 REWIRE YOUR LANGUAGE BRAIN EVERY DAY**

Latin is a language. Languages are complex things. You are **rewiring** your brain to learn it. Daily study *alternating* with other normal activities and a full night's sleep is the best stress-free way to soak up Latin. Sleep is a fabulous study aid—*as long as you are not sleeping through the block of time you scheduled for Latin each day.*

*Learn Latin in almost no time at all: Spend about 12 minutes on vocabulary right before you go to sleep EVERY night. Your brain will work on it all night for you while you get some quality snoozing done. First thing in the morning, zoom through your deck once more. Next, take a look at a chart of endings or forms that you taped to your bathroom mirror,*

just think them through while you are brushing your teeth. Then make yourself write them out quickly on a piece of scrap paper from memory. When you are riding in a car, spend 10 minutes flipping through flash cards or getting to know some noun or verb endings. Now add larger blocks of time translating and really concentrating on new concepts and you will master Latin without bulking out your schedule.

Before you know it, you are a Latin genius and you will never even pull a single all-nighter (because real geniuses never do, which leads me to my next point).

## #2 LONG CRAM SESSIONS FOR LATIN STUDY ARE A WASTE OF TIME

Cram sessions (when you sit for extended periods trying to ‘cram’ knowledge into your brain) don’t work. This rule doesn’t apply just to Latin but to any complex body of knowledge. Break up your study sessions into *short periods* (20 to 30 minutes) that are never longer than 45 minutes to an hour. Even on a day off, do 15 minutes of Latin review by using your homemade flash cards or reading the chapter before you go to bed. **Just do something in Latin every day.** Do you regularly leave Latin untouched for two or three consecutive days? You will have to work twice as hard for two more days to recover. People who play instruments are already familiar with this concept which is why musicians tend to be really dedicated Latin learners.

## #3 USE ALL YOUR SENSES

You might be surprised to hear this, but I’m not a proponent of approaches that have you mindlessly chanting Latin all day. Most of those Latin learning systems don’t teach you much except for how to make an hour pretty boring while your dog or cat looks at you funny. BUT, there IS something to be said for **USING YOUR EYES, EARS, HANDS AND VOICE TO STUDY LATIN.** So, chanting (or drawing, or writing, or listening or moving) can be a great tool!

It is important to try a variety of different ways to study Latin if your first approach doesn’t seem to be working for you. Just like you wouldn’t lift weights with only one arm, why study only one way? Work out different parts of your brain by using all your senses to learn Latin. Get creative: read, write, draw, doodle, pronounce, even act out your Latin. I have had students who attempt to write a story in Latin each week using that chapter’s vocabulary correctly. One former student used to say her endings while jumping rope.

Some create a pictorial system for flash cards, drawing a doodle for each noun or verb to help them remember the concept visually. Others profit from listening to the Mp3 files of the vocabulary provided on the Wheelock link on your class page. Some have a favorite spot where they post charts with endings, etc., where they can look at them regularly. Still others enlist a study buddy who is willing to help with the flash cards on a regular basis. A determined student will use some of all of these methods.

## RECOMMENDED STUDY SCHEDULE

Notice on this chart there is no marathon day to get your translation done or to cram for your quiz. The average per-day time is an hour to an hour and a half (best broken up through the day). **A normal range is actually 7 to 12 total hours per week** for the formal study of Latin. **IF YOU ARE NOT WORKING ON LATIN AT LEAST 7 MEANINGFUL HOURS PER WEEK, YOU HAVE NO BUSINESS WHINING ABOUT LOW SCORES AND LATIN BEING NO ‘FUN.’** Nothing is fun if you don’t know what you are doing. Welcome to high school level Latin. This is the real thing.

Those of you who are more familiar with ‘brick and mortar’ classrooms will understand that you would normally sit in a class for the first 5 hours on this list and still have 5-8 hours of translation and study homework. The Lukeion Project

approach is a very time effective method if you realize that YOU are fully in charge of the quality and intensity of your study time. Clever students make the most of their Latin minutes plus they don't wait until they have a huge block of time to get started. Do a little here and there all-day long. (Here is a sample schedule. You should make your own!)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Spend 40 minutes reviewing grammar and forms (self-tutorials and games are a help)	Attend class [60 min] and then re-copy your notes into your notebook. Check: do you understand the concepts?—total 90 minutes	Review new grammar and memorize forms – you should be able to write endings from memory before you quit for the day—30 minutes	Review new grammar and forms—30 minutes. Can you write them out from memory yet?	Review new grammar and forms—do a few self tutorials and online games, too—40 minutes	Spend 15 minutes reviewing forms
Spend 15 minutes on vocabulary	Spend 20 minutes on vocabulary	Spend 30 minutes making new vocabulary cards	Spend 30 minutes on vocabulary	Reserve 30 minutes to take your weekly vocabulary quiz	Spend 20 minutes on vocabulary	Spend 15 minutes on vocabulary
	Reserve 60 minutes to take your weekly quiz prior to the 7 PM ET deadline		Do 1/3 <sup>rd</sup> of your weekly assignment—30 minutes	Do 1/3 <sup>rd</sup> of your weekly assignment—30 minutes	Do 1/3 <sup>rd</sup> of your weekly assignment, submit it to Quia by 7 PM ET deadline—60 minutes	
15 minutes	2 hours	2 hours	1.5 hours	1.5 hours	2 hours	30 minutes

### Gifted, Clever, and Especially Smart Students: Beware!

If you seldom struggle to learn a subject, you are about to encounter a little problem. Latin takes time and determination. **Period.** Do not misinterpret your need to take extra time as *failure* or that you are not 'good' at Latin. Sometimes extremely gifted students do poorly in Latin because they believe that they are naturally *good* at subjects that come easily to them and, the reverse, they are *not good* in subjects that demand extra time. Latin takes time for everyone, especially for those planning to be good at it. This applies to you. You have met your match, so rally your intestinal fortitude and resolves to defeat this foe by learning it with patience and determination.

### AVERAGE STUDENTS: BEWARE!

If you normally have to work to master academic things, you are in the right crowd. Don't read my warning to gifted students and despair that Latin is so hard even gifted students can't learn it. On the contrary! Latin is an especially good topic to study if you are an average student. You already know how to work at things to learn them so now **do what you do best and shine!** Determination is the key to everything, including Latin. You already have that going for you so now let's see some great Latin!

**BONUS SESSIONS**  
 We will occasionally issue bonus 10-30 minute recordings that cover confusing concepts and certain assigned sentences after you've worked on them and even struggled with them. Bonus sessions generally come out on weekends or Mondays.

## OTHER STUFF

### WHEN TO REGISTER FOR SPRING LATIN 1B:

You may register for your second semester any time. Only a paid registration reserves a seat, but new students should feel satisfied that online Latin is a good fit before they sign up for the next semester. If you have a strong opinion about which section of Latin you attend, register sooner rather than later because our sessions will fill.

### THE NATIONAL LATIN EXAM:

All who register and pay tuition for Latin 1b by Dec 15<sup>th</sup> will automatically be enrolled in the National Latin Exam Level I (there is an additional \$12 fee added to spring tuition to cover the cost of the exam). Let us know if you do not plan to take the Latin 1 exam by Dec 15<sup>th</sup> so that we do not order a test for you. There is an NLE level for every Lukeion Latin course. Honors are cumulative and increase for students who take all levels of the NLE starting with Latin 1.

The NLE is to be administered at home ONLINE by an adult proctor on March 10, 2025. Sorry – no alternate dates are available. If you aim to be in a coma on this day or if you'll be nesting in the Gobi Desert, let me know before I order your exam. The exam can be taken any time during the 24-hour period known as "March 10" but I recommend sticking to the 6 am – 6 pm range in case of technical issues that need to be answered. **YOU MAY NOT TAKE THIS EXAM EARLIER THAN MARCH 10. YOU MAY NOT TAKE THIS EXAM LATER THAN MARCH 10.**

**PRO TIP:** Latin 1 students should sign up for the Meet the Romans workshop available only in the spring semester. This will provide the ideal background for your new language and important preparation for the National Latin Exam.

### THE SPRING PSQ:

On January 13, one week prior to the start of Latin 1b (January 21), I will open the **Latin 1b Pre-Semester Quiz (PSQ)**. This quiz will cajole you into intensely reviewing the first 9 chapters prior to the start of the new semester. You may take the comprehensive quiz up to five times (closed book) and you should study between attempts. Score an 85% or higher to earn a '100' as the first grade of the semester (fall below? Take home a zero). Major bonus points go out to the top 3 scores. The PSQ closes January 24 at 7 pm ET.

**Plan for your participation in this quiz as you arrange your January schedule.**

### DON'T BE SHY:

Email me: [sfisher@lukeion.org](mailto:sfisher@lukeion.org) If you are lost, confused, or just want to check if you are on track, **please email me**. I do prefer that you NOT call. Include your name, your level and your session time in your email. I will be happy to answer any question you might have, and I try to answer fairly quickly during weekdays. On weekends response time will be slower since I am spending time with my family. I do not check email on Sunday. On an exotic trip? Send me a postcard: 7725 Eustis Ct. Cincinnati, OH 45236

***On the next page is your schedule for this semester. Print a copy and place it in your notebook. All regular homework and quizzes are described by WEEK NUMBERS with corresponding dates. When asking for early access to homework or quizzes, refer to the quiz or homework week number. Reading the syllabus will be explained in the Orientation, but if you still have questions about how to read the syllabus after attending the Orientation session, please email me for clarification right away.***

Week  
number/  
class date

Chapter  
Covered

**Homework Assignment: Due by  
7pm ET on the Friday after class date**

**Quiz Topic and due date  
(last column) 7 PM ET**

0	Prior to AUG 27	View orientation for Latin students & parents. Purchase supplies. Read the <i>Wheelock</i> chapter titled "Introduction." Take special notes on the "The Alphabet and Pronunciation" section.			
1	AUG 27	Caput 1	p. 7 Translate <i>Sententiae Antiquae</i> 1-15 (henceforth known as SA)	Quiz on alphabet & pronunciation and <i>caput</i> 1 basics (see handout) <i>and bonus syllabus quiz</i>	Sep 2
2	SEP 3	Caput 1	p. 8 Translate SA 16-20 (English sentences), "Poet Horace Contemplates..."	Caput 1 voc. quiz due THU Everything in <i>caput</i> 1	Sep 9
3	SEP 10	Caput 2	p. 19 Translate SA all and p. 20 "Catullus Bids..."	Caput 2 voc. quiz due THU Everything in <i>caput</i> 2	Sep 16
4	SEP 17	Caput 3	p. 28-29 Translate <i>Exercitationes</i> (henceforth known as "EX") 1-8; SA 1-8	Caput 3 voc. quiz due THU Review of <i>capites</i> 1-2,	Sep 23
5	SEP 24	Caput 3	p. 28-29 Translate <i>Ex</i> 9-11; SA 9-11 p. 29 "Grass is Always Greener"	Everything in <i>caput</i> 3	Sep 30
6	OCT 1	Caput 4	p. 37 <i>EX</i> ALL; SA ALL	Caput 4 voc. quiz due THU All things <i>caput</i> 4	Oct 7
7	OCT 8	Caput 4	p. 38 "The Rarity of Friendship" Review everything from chapters 1-4	<b>MIDTERM EXAM: comprehensive <i>capites</i> 1-4</b>	Oct 14
8	OCT 15	Caput 5	p. 44-45 <i>EX</i> ALL; SA ALL	Caput 5 voc. quiz due THU Everything in <i>caput</i> 5	Oct 21
9	OCT 22	Caput 6	p. 45 "His only guest..." and "Thermopylae"; p. 51-52 <i>EX</i> ALL; SA ALL	Caput 6 voc. quiz due THU Everything in <i>caput</i> 6	Oct 28
10	OCT 29	Caput 7	p. 52 "I do not love..." and "The Historian Livy..."; p. 58-59 <i>EX</i> 1-10; SA 1-9	Review of <i>capites</i> 5-6, parts of 7, Caput 7 voc. quiz due THU	Nov 4
11	NOV 5	Caput 7	p. 58-59 <i>EX</i> 11-14; SA 10-13 p. 59 "Rape of Lucretia"	Everything in <i>caput</i> 7	Nov 11
12	NOV 12	Caput 8	p. 60 "Catullus dedicates..." p. 67-68 <i>EX</i> ALL, SA ALL	Caput 8 voc. quiz due THU Everything in <i>caput</i> 8	Nov 18
13	NOV 19	Caput 9	p. 75-80 <i>EX</i> All; SA All	Caput 9 voc. quiz due THU Everything in <i>caput</i> 9	Nov 25
14	NOV 26	Caput 9	<b>** No class due to U.S. Thanksgiving holiday ** but translation due 11/25:</b> p. 69 "Cicero on the Ethics"; p. 76 "When I have"; p. 77 untitled paragraph by Seneca		No Quiz Dec 2
15	DEC 3	Capites 1-9	Review for final exam in class! No translation homework this week.	<b>FINAL EXAM</b> CLOSES DEC 10 AT 7 PM ET	
16	<b>Final Exam Dec. 6-10</b>		Exam covers <b>everything</b> in chapters 1-9: all grammar, all forms, all vocabulary	Semester ends. All coursework must be submitted by this date for credit. No exceptions.	

**KEY: EX = "Exercitationes" SA = "Sententiae Antiquae"**