The Department of Classics offers course work in the language, history, literature, archaeology and culture of ancient Rome. At the heart of these courses are classes in the Latin language. Students of beginning Latin master the grammar in two semesters and go on immediately, in the third semester, to read authors such as Cicero and Vergil. Students who have studied Latin in high school begin with a placement exam, and many can begin their studies in more advanced courses. Students have the opportunity to study numerous Latin authors, including the great poets Vergil and Ovid, the historians Livy and Tacitus, and the novelists Apuleius and Petronius. More advanced undergraduates often work alongside graduate students in our vigorous graduate program; and they also have the opportunity to do their own research or to assist in faculty members' research projects. It is a remarkable and dynamic environment, one that the students find both rewarding and stimulating. Resources on campus supporting the study of Latin include the Wulfing Coin Collection, one of the largest collections of ancient coins owned by an American university.

Additional Information

Study Abroad: Study abroad for a semester in Rome or Athens is an option many classics majors select. Washington University is a member of the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies (ICCS) consortium, and many majors attend the one-semester ICCS program in Rome. A knowledge of Latin or Greek to at least the intermediate level is required for admission to the Rome program. Students interested in studying at the Intercollegiate Center in Rome should consult Professor Tim Moore. Students interested in the College Year in Athens Program should consult Professor Robert Lamberton.

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Faculty

For a list of affiliated faculty, please visit the Department of Classics faculty page.

Majors

There is no major in this area. Students interested in Latin should explore either the major in classics or the major in ancient studies offered through the Department of Classics.

Minors

There is no minor in this area. Students interested in Latin should explore either the minor in classics or the minor in ancient studies offered through the Department of Classics.

Courses

Visit https://courses.wustl.edu to view semester offerings for L10 Latin.

L10 Latin 101D Beginning Latin I
An introduction to Latin, the language of Ancient Rome and the European Middle Ages and Renaissance, and the most important source of English medical and scientific terms. Beginning with the foundations of Latin grammar, students work toward developing reading knowledge with the goal of reading literary texts. Students who have already begun their study of Latin should consult the chair of the department.
Credit 4 units. A&S: LA A&S IQ: LCD, LS BU: HUM, IS

L10 Latin 102D Beginning Latin II
Continuation of program begun in Latin 101D.
Credit 4 units. A&S: LA A&S IQ: LCD, LS BU: HUM, IS

L10 Latin 190D Intensive Elementary Latin I
An accelerated study of Latin grammar. For students with previous knowledge of Latin, graduate students outside of Classics, and for students willing to work at an accelerated pace.
Credit 5 units. A&S: LA A&S IQ: LCD, LS BU: IS

L10 Latin 210 Intensive Elementary Latin II
Completion of work begun in Latin 190D followed by readings in original Latin poetry and prose. Successful completion of Latin 210 with a grade of B+ or better allows the student to proceed directly to Latin 318C.
Credit 5 units. A&S: LA A&S IQ: LCD, LS BU: IS

L10 Latin 301 Introduction to Latin Literature I
Intensive review of Latin grammar and syntax and development of reading skills and translation techniques through short readings from original texts in prose and poetry such as Caesar and Ovid. Prerequisite: Latin 102D, placement by examination or permission of instructor.
Credit 3 units. A&S: LA A&S IQ: LCD, LS BU: HUM EN: H

L10 Latin 3161 Introduction to Latin Literature II: Elementary Prose and Poetry
Appreciation of literary forms through study of selected elementary literary texts in Latin prose and poetry. Prerequisite: Latin 301, placement by examination or permission of the instructor.
Credit 3 units. A&S: LA A&S IQ: LCD, LS BU: HUM EN: H

L10 Latin 3171 Survey of Latin Literature: The Republic
A sampling of the major literary achievements of the last two centuries of the Roman Republic, including prose and verse authors. Readings are typically drawn from Catullus, Lucretius, Caeser, and Cicero. There are regular, selective grammar reviews and discussions of translation strategies. Prerequisite: Latin 102D with a grade of B+ or better, or Latin 301, or Latin 3161, or placement by examination.
Credit 3 units. A&S: LA A&S IQ: LCD, LS BU: HUM EN: H
L10 Latin 318 Survey of Latin Literature: The Empire
Readings in the verse and prose literature of the Roman Empire, particularly its first two centuries, with targeted grammar review and stylistic analysis. Readings may be drawn from Vergil, Livy, Suetonius, or other appropriate authors. Prerequisite: Latin 102D with a grade of B+ or better, or Latin 301, or Latin 3161, or placement by examination.
Credit 3 units. A&S: LA A&S IQ: LCD, LS BU: HUM EN: H

L10 Latin 350W Writing about Latin Literature
Latin courses at the 300 level with enhanced writing requirements may be taken under this designation as writing-intensive courses. Required: permission of instructor.
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH, WI A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, WI BU: HUM EN: H

L10 Latin 370 Topics in Latin Literature
Study in selected problems, eras or generic sequences; specific topic for each semester in Course Listings. May be repeated for credit for study of different topics. Prerequisites: Latin 318C or permission of instructor.
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH BU: HUM

L10 Latin 400 Independent Study
Credit 3 units.

L10 Latin 401 Medieval Latin
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, LS Art: HUM

L10 Latin 413 Latin Philosophical Writers
Readings among various writers of philosophy in Latin, ranging from Cicero to Seneca to Augustine. Texts vary, therefore, course may be taken more than once.
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, LS Art: HUM

L10 Latin 415 Cicero
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S IQ: HUM Art: HUM EN: H

L10 Latin 416 Seneca
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S IQ: HUM, LCD EN: H

L10 Latin 419 Julius Caesar and His Image
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, LS EN: H

L10 Latin 421 Roman Comedy
Credit 3 units.

L10 Latin 4215 Plautus
Readings from the comedies of Plautus. Discussion of play production in Republican Rome, reception, and interpretation. The advanced-level Latin reading load is supplemented by secondary readings, quizzes and short reports. Prerequisites: Latin 3171 and Latin 3181 (or equivalent) and sophomore standing or above.
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, LS Art: HUM EN: H

L10 Latin 422 Lucretius
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, LS Art: HUM

L10 Latin 431 Vergil: The Aeneid
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH Art: HUM

L10 Latin 432 Horace on Poetry
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S IQ: HUM

L10 Latin 433 Ovid
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, LS EN: H

L10 Latin 441 Roman Satire
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, LS EN: H

L10 Latin 444 Latin Prose Composition
Readings in Cicero coupled with exercises in composition of Latin prose, with attention to grammatical and idiomatic accuracy as well as elegance of style.
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, LS Art: HUM

L10 Latin 451 The Roman Historians
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH

L10 Latin 471 Elegiac Poetry
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH Art: HUM

L10 Latin 493 Readings in Latin Prose
A survey of the major genres of Latin prose, history, oratory and philosophy. Authors may include Caesar, Cicero, Seneca, Tacitus. Aim is to develop reading facility and understanding.
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, LS Art: HUM

L10 Latin 494W Topics in Latin Literature
Advanced Latin seminars with enhanced writing requirements may be taken under this designation as writing-intensive courses. Required: permission of instructor.
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH, WI A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, LS, WI EN: H

L10 Latin 495 Topics in Republican Latin
May be repeated for credit for study of different topics.
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH, WI A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, LS, WI EN: H

L10 Latin 496 Tacitus
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S IQ: HUM  Art: HUM

L10 Latin 4961 Topics in Empire Latin
May be repeated for credit for study of different topics.
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, LS Art: HUM

L10 Latin 4962 Juvenal and Martial
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, LS EN: H

L10 Latin 497 Honors Course I
Prerequisites: junior standing, grades averaging A– in courses numbered 300 or above in Latin, and permission of the chair of the department. Classics 497, Greek 499, or Latin 497 must be taken by all honors candidates.
Credit 3 units.
L10 Latin 498 Honors Course II
Prerequisites: junior standing, a grade of A– or better in courses in Latin numbered 300 or above, and permission of the department chair. Either Latin 497 or Greek 499 must be taken by all Honors candidates.
Credit 3 units.