

ICLAT 294/394: Latin Literature from 70-180 CE

Syllabus, Fall 2006

Course Director:

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Description

This inter-campus team taught course explores the literature of the Roman Empire from 70 -180 CE through the works of four authors--Tacitus, Statius, Juvenal and Apuleius-- who were active during the period beginning with the reign of Vespasian and extending to the death of M. Aurelius. Students will read selections of these authors' works in Latin and study them in their literary, cultural and historical context. Themes will include engagement with literary predecessors, reacting to the Roman past, life and literature under the emperor, and the culture of the far-flung Roman empire. Each week the common session (attended by all students and faculty) will focus on one aspect of that context. In order to expose students to a wide range of scholarly expertise, a different faculty member will lead the common session each week. These sessions will reflect current trends in scholarship for this period. Students will also meet locally with their home campus mentor to concentrate more closely on issues of language, translation and interpretation of assigned readings. In weekly online discussion (study questions) students will have the opportunity to expand on and synthesize issues that arise in the reading and common session, as well as engage with secondary literature. Students will also complete an online midterm and final examination. This course is specifically designed for advanced students and will require extensive reading in more than one genre of Latin literature and a rigorous study of the cultural and historical context of Rome in the late first and second centuries CE. Because this course addresses both literature and context, students are expected to actively synthesize a wide variety of material.

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Objectives

- Advanced students of Latin will continue developing their fluency by studying the literature of 70-180 CE.
- Students will become familiar with the style, genre and themes of Tacitus, Statius, Juvenal and Apuleius.
- Students will explore how these works responded to earlier literature, e.g. from the Augustan (i.e., Virgil, Horace, and Ovid) and Neronian (e.g., Seneca, Lucan, and Petronius) periods.
- Students will explore the history, culture and society of the Roman Empire 70-180 CE as it is reflected in and forms a context for the literature of this period.
- Students will become familiar with current trends in scholarly interpretation for Latin literature, culture and society from 70-180 CE.
- Students will interact with faculty and students at other participating institutions.

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Course Components

Preparation: Students should read all assigned primary texts for the week by the common session. Students who choose to take this course at the 294 rather than 394 level will be responsible for less reading in Latin but will be expected to complete all of the reading in English.

Common Session: Mondays, 6:30-8 PM Eastern. Students at all participating institutions will meet together online for a common session via live streaming audio and a chat room.. These interactive sessions have a different faculty leader each week and typically combine mini-lectures with discussion, questions, and exercises.

Study Questions: Responses to the study questions are due Wednesdays, with additional responses due on Fridays. The study questions afford students the opportunity to expand on and synthesize issues that arise in the reading and common session, as well as engage with secondary literature. Students may be asked to complete additional reading in English for the study questions.

Due Dates and Times for Discussion Questions	
Time	Activity
9 AM (CST) Wednesdays	First Answers to Study Questions due
5 PM (CST) Wednesdays	First Answers Released by Course Director
5 PM (CST) Fridays	Responses to other students' answers due

Tutorials: Each student will meet for at least one hour every week with a mentor at her or his home institution. The times and locations of these meetings will be determined on each campus. Students are responsible for contacting their faculty mentors and finalizing the details of their weekly meetings. These sessions will focus more closely on issues of language, translation and interpretation of assigned readings. Home campus mentors will be the final authority for all grades.

Examinations: There will be a collaboratively designed and graded midterm and final exam for this course. Examinations may vary slightly in format, but all will feature 1) the translation and/or reading comprehension of seen and sight passages and 2) essay questions of various types and lengths.

For students in ICLAT 294, grades will be based on the following components:

Class preparation and work in tutorial:	40%
Participation in the study questions:	30%
Midterm examination:	15%
Final examination:	15%

For students in ICLAT 394, grades will be based on the following components:

Class preparation and work in tutorial:	30%
Participation in the study questions:	30%
Midterm examination:	20%
Final examination:	20%

Primary Readings

- Tacitus, *Histories* 1.1-3
- Tacitus, *Annals* 4.32-35
- Tacitus, *Agricola* 1-3, 42-46
- Tacitus, *Dialogus* 1-5.4, 36.1-8, 40.2-42.2
- Statius, *Thebaid* 1.1-45, 6.826-910; 8.716-766, 12.752-819
- Statius, *Silvae* 4.3
- Juvenal 3
- Apuleius, *Metamorphoses* 1.1-1.21.1
- Apuleius, *Metamorphoses* (=The Golden Ass, complete work in English)

Suggested Texts

R. M. Ogilvie and I. Richmond. *Cornelii Taciti De Vita Agricolae*. Oxford 1967.

K. M. Coleman. *Silvae* IV. Oxford 1988.

S. M. Braund. Juvenal, *Satires* Book 1. (Cambridge Greek and Latin Classics) Cambridge 1996.

J. S. Ruebel. *The Metamorphoses, Book 1*. Wauconda, Ill. 2000.

Apuleius. *The Golden Ass*. trans. P. G. Walsh. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1994.

Some texts and commentaries will be made available in electronic versions.

Course Schedule

Note that readings should be completed before the common session. Numbers in parentheses following reading assignments are word totals. Students at the 294 level are responsible for reading in English, all works not read in Latin.

Week 1: Introduction		
	Reading 394 & 294	Goodman, Martin. <i>The Roman World 44 BC-AD 180</i>. London 1997, pp. 58-75, "Civil War and Flavians, AD 68-96" and "Nerva to Marcus Aurelius, AD 96-180."
9/11/06	Common Session	"Writers and Readers," Holly Sypniewski, Millsaps College An Introduction to Historical Background and Themes of the Course
	Study Questions	See the Study Questions Module in the Course Delivery System.
Week 2: Tacitus		
	Reading 394	Tacitus, <i>Histories</i> 1.1-3 (characterization of the Flavian period) (396 words);

		Tacitus, <i>Annals</i> 4.32-33 (on writing history), 4.34-35 (on a historian's trial) (651 words)
	Reading 294	Latin: Tacitus, <i>Annals</i> 4.32-33 (on writing history), 4.34-35 (on a historian's trial) (651 words) English: Tacitus, Histories 1.1-3 (characterization of the Flavian period) (first three paragraphs of linked translation)
9/18/06	Common Session	"Tacitus," Cynthia Damon, Amherst College, Special Guest Lecturer at Colorado College An Introduction to Tacitus
9/20/06	Study Questions	See the Study Questions Module in the Course Delivery System. Questions will be made available online following the common session on Mondays.
Week 3: Tacitus		
	Reading 394	Tacitus, <i>Agricola</i> 1-3 (387 words), 42-46 (843) (linked text and commentary) English: Tacitus, Agricola
	Reading 294	Latin: Tacitus, <i>Agricola</i> 1-3 (387 words), 45-46 (351) (linked text and commentary) English: Tacitus, Agricola especially 42-44
9/25/06	Common Session	"Exemplarity and Education," Anne Leen, Furman University Roman Education and the Use of <i>Exempla</i> in Roman Culture
9/27/06	Study Questions	See the Study Questions Module in the Course Delivery System. Questions will be made available online following the common session on Mondays.
Week 4: Tacitus		
	Reading 394	Latin: Tacitus, <i>Dialogus</i> 1-5.4 , 36.1-8 and 40.2-42.2 (on Maternus's poetry, 722 words, and highlights of Maternus's speech about politics and oratory, 282 + 449 words) English: Bartsch, Shadi. "Praise and Doublespeak: Tacitus' <i>Dialogus</i> and Juvenal's Seventh <i>Satire</i> ." In <i>Actors in the Audience</i> . Cambridge 1994. pp. 98-125. text
	Reading 294	Latin: Tacitus, <i>Dialogus</i> 1-5.4 (on Maternus's poetry, 722 words) English: Tacitus, <i>Dialogus</i> 36.1-8 and 40.2-42.2 (Highlights of Maternus's speech about politics and oratory, 282 + 449 words) Bartsch, Shadi. "Praise and Doublespeak: Tacitus' <i>Dialogus</i> and Juvenal's Seventh <i>Satire</i> ." In <i>Actors in the Audience</i> . Cambridge 1994. pp. 98-125. text
10/2/06	Common Session	"Freedom of speech," Mary McHugh, Hamilton College

		How to speak to and under a tyrant or emperor
10/4/06	Study Questions	See the Study Questions Module in the Course Delivery System. Questions will be made available online following the common session on Mondays.
Week 5: Statius		
	Reading 394	Statius, <i>Thebaid</i> (epic) 1.1-45 (proem 277 words), wrestling match 6.826-910 (543 words).
	Reading 294	Latin: Statius, <i>Thebaid</i> (epic) 1.1-45 (proem 277 words), wrestling match 6.826-875 (313 words). English: Statius, <i>Thebaid</i> 6-876-910
10/9/06	Common Session	"Thebes: Wrestling with the Epic Past," Barbara Weiden Boyd, Bowdoin College Thebes as a theme in earlier literature and the relationship to epics and other literary predecessors
10/11/06	Study Questions	See the Study Questions Module in the Course Delivery System. Questions will be made available online following the common session on Mondays.
Week of 10/16: Fall Break: No Class		
Week 6 : Statius		
	Reading 394	Latin: Statius, <i>Thebaid</i> 8.716-766 (head-chewing) (327), final scene and sphragis 12.752-819 (458 words). English: Braund, S. M. "Ending Epic, Statius, Theseus, and a Merciful Release." <i>PCPS</i> 42 (1996) 1-23. text
	Reading 294	Latin: Statius, <i>Thebaid</i> 8.716-766 (head-chewing) (327), final scene and sphragis 12.782-819 (458 words). English: Statius, <i>Thebaid</i> 12.752-781 Braund, S. M. "Ending Epic, Statius, Theseus, and a Merciful Release." <i>PCPS</i> 42 (1996) 1-23. text
10/23/06	Common Session	"Spectacle and Violence," Miriam Carlisle, Washington and Lee University The role of spectacle and violence in Roman culture and the relationship of the emperor with the people.
10/25/06	Study Questions	See the Study Questions Module in the Course Delivery System. Questions will be made available online following the common session on Mondays.
Week 7: Statius		
	Reading 394	Statius, <i>Silvae</i> 4.3 . (Domitian's new road). (163 hendecasyllables, 785

		words)
	Reading 294	Latin: Statius, Silvae 4.3.1-94 and 139-63 (Domitian's new road). (138 hendecasyllables, 566 words) English: Statius, Silvae 4.3.95-138
10/30/06	Common Session	"Imperial Building Programs: Domitian and Hadrian," Hal Haskell, Southwestern University How those in power use public space to promote themselves
10/31-11/2/06	Midterm	Midterm Available Online
Week 8: Juvenal		
	Reading 394	Latin: Juvenal 3, Lines 1-163 (1117) English: Rimell, Victoria. "The Poor Man's Feast: Juvenal." In <i>Cambridge Companion to Roman Satire</i> . Cambridge 2005. pp. 81-94. text
	Reading 294	Latin: Juvenal 3, Lines 1-92 (607) English: Juvenal 3, Lines 93-163 Rimell, Victoria. "The Poor Man's Feast: Juvenal." In <i>Cambridge Companion to Roman Satire</i> . Cambridge 2005. pp. 81-94. text
11/6/06	Common Session	"Satire," Elizabeth Manwell, Kalamazoo College The genre of satire, the satiric <i>persona</i> , and Juvenal as a satirist
11/8/06	Study Questions	See the Study Questions Module in the Course Delivery System. Questions will be made available online following the common session on Mondays.
Week 9: Juvenal		
	Reading 394	Juvenal 3, Lines 164-322 (1040)
	Reading 294	Latin: Juvenal 3, Lines 232-322 (609) English: Juvenal 3, Lines 164-231
11/13/06	Common Session	"Cities," Rebecca Benefiel, Washington and Lee University The role and perception of the city in the Roman empire
11/15/06	Study Questions	See the Study Questions Module in the Course Delivery System. Questions will be made available online following the common session on Mondays.
Week 10: Apuleius		
	Reading 394	Apuleius, <i>Metamorphoses</i> 1-1.6.6 (to <i>viseris</i>); Students should have read all of Apuleius in English by this point. English: Students should have read all of Apuleius in English by this point.

	Reading 294	Latin: Apuleius, <i>Metamorphoses</i> 1-1.5.3 (to <i>palam gesta sunt</i>) (557 words) English: Students should have read all of Apuleius in English by this point; review 1.5.3-1.6.6
11/20/06	Common Session	"Provinces," Sonia Sabnis, Reed College Romanization, frontiers, life in the provinces of the Roman empire, and new cultural centers (North Africa)
	Study Questions	Thanksgiving: No Online Discussion
Week 11: Apuleius		
	Reading 394	Apuleius, <i>Metamorphoses</i> 1.6.7-13 (1201 words)
	Reading 294	Latin: Apuleius, <i>Metamorphoses</i> 1.6.7-1.9 and 1.11-1.13 (745 words) English: Review Apuleius, <i>Metamorphoses</i> 1.6.7 & 1.6.10
11/27/06	Common Session	"Magic and Religion," David Sick, Rhodes College Plurality of religious experiences in the Roman empire, Isis, emperor cult, magic and control
11/29/06	Study Questions	See the Study Questions Module in the Course Delivery System. Questions will be made available online following the common session on Mondays.
Week 12: Apuleius		
	Reading 394	Apuleius, <i>Metamorphoses</i> 1.14-21.1 (first sentence, to <i>fuit</i>) (1120 words)
	Reading 294	Latin: Apuleius, <i>Metamorphoses</i> 1.14 and 18-21.1 (first sentence, to <i>fuit</i>) (691 words) English: Review Apuleius, <i>Metamorphoses</i> 1.15-17
12/4/06	Common Session	"Anxieties," Holly Sypniewski, Millsaps College Course summary and review, Good emperors and Roman anxieties, literature as a historical source
12/5-7/06	Final Exam	Final Exam Available Online

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