

AP Latin Syllabus 2012-2013

Course Description

Welcome to AP Latin! We will spend the upcoming year reading excerpts of Caesar's *Gallic Wars* and Vergil's *Aeneid* in Latin and in English and analyzing the themes, grammar, and significance of the texts.

Course Goals

In order to adequately prepare for the AP exam, there are many aspects that we will especially focus on. According to the College Board's *AP Latin Course Description*, the AP exam will test the following abilities:

- to write a literal English translation of a Latin passage on the syllabus
- to identify and analyze characteristic or noteworthy features of the author's mode of expression, including his use of word choice and placement, imagery, figures of speech, and metrical effects, as seen in specific passages
- to discuss particular motifs or general themes not only suggested by specific passages but also relevant to the text as a whole
- to analyze characters or situation as portrayed in specific passages

The AP lines which we will cover throughout the year are the following:

Required Readings in Latin

Vergil, *Aeneid*

- Book 1: Lines 1–209, 418–440, 494–578
- Book 2: Lines 40–56, 201–249, 268–297, 559–620
- Book 4: Lines 160–218, 259–361, 659–705
- Book 6: Lines 295–332, 384–425, 450–476, 847–899

Caesar, *Gallic War*

- Book 1: Chapters 1–7
- Book 4: Chapters 24–35 and the first sentence of Chapter 36 (*Eodem die legati ... venerunt.*)
- Book 5: Chapters 24–48
- Book 6: Chapters 13–20

Required Readings in English

Vergil, *Aeneid*

- Books 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 12

Caesar, *Gallic War*

- Books 1, 6, 7

The AP Exam

The AP exam consists of two sections: multiple-choice and free-response. The multiple-choice section contains four passages and 50 questions testing grammar, syntax, meaning, meter, figures of speech, etc. There will be one passage from Caesar, one from Vergil, and two are sight-reading passages from other authors (one prose, one poetry). For this reason we will have extensive practice with reading and testing sight passages throughout the year.

The free-response section has five questions. The first two questions are literal translations (one from Caesar, one from Vergil). These translations should remain as close to the Latin as possible and stay true to tense, voice, etc. The questions is an analytical essay based on two excerpts (either both from Caesar, both from Vergil, or a mix of both). In these essays you will have to answer the question with extensive reference to the Latin text. Finally, the last two questions are short answer sections, one from Caesar and one from Vergil. You will read a short passage and and a series of questions including translation, grammar, contextualizations, and connections to the English text.

I highly recommend that you check out the *AP Latin Course Description* (available on the Edmodo page) for more information. The course description also includes sample multiple-choice and free-response questions.

Course Structure

As you can see, the AP syllabus is quite exhausting. In order to complete everything before the AP exam, we will need to move at a constant pace throughout the year. For this reason, our weeks will be structured in the following way.

1. In-class translating. We will translate approximately 40-80 lines in class each week. The translation schedule is attached to this syllabus so that you can keep up to date even if you miss class. Translating will be done as literally as possible. As we translate we will make note of both the grammar and syntax of the passages as well as characters, themes, figures of speech, meter, etc.
2. Practice translations. You will also have extensive practice writing out your own AP-style translations. These translations will be graded in the AP style (using chunking) and will count for quiz grades. You will also be required to scan some lines.
3. Discussion. At a basic level, our discussions will begin by ensuring that everyone knows what is going on in the text. From there we will move on to discussing larger themes relating to concepts such as fate, piety, the concept of a hero, etc. We will also look at the political climate in Rome at the time the *Gallic Wars* and *Aeneid* were written and look at how these texts might be commenting on that climate. Finally, we will be looking at a number of rhetorical devices and see how Caesar and Vergil use those devices to evoke emotion in the text.
4. Sight-reading. At least every other week you will receive a sight passage from a different author (poetry or prose) and a number of multiple-choice questions to answer about this passage. We will also use previous editions of the level V-VI National Latin Exam to practice sight-reading.

5. Vocabulary. Because there is an extensive amount of vocabulary found in the texts, we will have weekly vocabulary quizzes for practice. I will provide you with frequency lists so that you can determine which words are most important to learn. I highly recommend that you use flashcards (either purchased or made yourself) so that you can practice at any time.

6. Reading the texts in English. Throughout the year you will also be reading sections from both texts in English. This will be completed on your own time, with one book to read every two weeks. We will spend some time in class discussing important characters and themes from each book.

The following list is an approximate schedule of translations.

Week	Latin Readings	Other Assignments
-summer-	n/a	
1: 9/4 - 9/7	Caesar 1.1-2	
2: 9/10 - 9/14	Caesar 1.3-5	
3: 9/17 - 9/21	Caesar 1.6-7	Caesar Book 1 Reading (English)
4: 9/24 - 9/28	Caesar 4.24-27	
5: 10/1 - 10/5	Caesar 4.28-31	
6: 10/8 - 10/12	Caesar 4.32-35	
7: 10/15 - 10/19	Caesar 5.24-26	
8: 10/22 - 10/26	Caesar 5.27-30	
9: 10/29 - 11/3	Caesar 5.31-34	
10: 11/5 - 11/9	Caesar 5.35-37	
11: 11/12 - 11/16	Caesar 5.38-41	
12: 11/19 - 11/23	Caesar 5.42-44	
13: 11/26 - 11/30	Caesar 5.45-48	Caesar Book 6 Reading (English)
14: 12/3 - 12/7	Caesar 6.13-16	
15: 12/10 - 12/14	Caesar 6.17-20	
16: 12/17 - 12/21	Review	Caesar Test

17: 12/24 - 12/28	n/a	
18: 12/31 - 1/4	n/a	
19: 1/7 - 1/11	Vergil 1.1-80	Aeneid Book 1 Reading (English)
20: 1/14 - 1/18	Vergil 1.81-156	
21: 1/21 - 1/25	Vergil 1.157-209	
22: 1/28 - 2/1	Vergil 1.418-440; 1.494-519	Aeneid Book 2 Reading (English)
23: 2/4 - 2/8	Vergil 1.520-578	
24: 2/11 - 2/15	Vergil 2.40-56; 2.201-249	Aeneid Book 4 Reading (English)
25: 2/18 - 2/22	Vergil 2.268-297; 2.559-587	
26: 2/25 - 3/1	Vergil 2.588-620	Aeneid Book 6 Reading (English)
27: 3/4 - 3/8	Vergil 4.160-218; 4.259-278	
28: 3/11 - 3/15	Vergil 4.279-361	Aeneid Book 8 Reading (English)
29: 3/18 - 3/22	Vergil 4.659-705	
30: 3/25 - 3/29	Vergil 6.295-332; 6.384-425	Aeneid Book 12 Reading (English)
31: 4/1 - 4/5	Vergil 6.450-476; 6.847-899	
32: 4/8 - 4/12	-catch up any remaining lines-	
33: 4/15 - 4/19	-catch up any remaining lines-	Vergil Test
34: 4/22 - 4/26	Review	
35: 4/29 - 5/3	Review	
36: 5/6 - 5/10	Review	*AP EXAM ON 5/9*
37: 5/13 - 5/17	Projects	
38: 5/20 - 5/24	Projects	
39: 5/27 - 5/31	Projects	
40: 6/3 - 6/7	Projects	
41: 6/10 - 6/14	Projects	Get out of here!

Please fill out this sheet so that I know you have read and understood this information. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 724-846-9600 or email me at steinL@bsd.k12.pa.us.

I look forward to a great year!

- Magistra Stein

Student:

I understand and agree to this information, and will try my best in Latin class.

_____ (print) _____ (sign)

Parents:

I understand and agree to this information.

_____ (print) _____ (sign)

Best person to contact at home: _____ (name)

_____ (phone) _____ (email)

I prefer to be contacted by: **phone** **email**

Please send me a parent access code for Edmodo*

Edmodo is the website that we are using for class this year. It is completely private, but you may access it with a special parent code. The site will be used for announcements, files, and discussion.