

Syllabus for 8th Grade Latin

Overview: The Latin course serves as a first look at foreign language study, focusing on conversational and basic Latin and its connections to English and the Romance languages. We pay special attention to vocabulary acquisition and spelling skills. Roman culture and history serve as the context for these studies.

Textbook(s) and Other Resources used: Student materials include a wide variety of middle-level and beginner Latin language resources, collected in packets by the Instructor; these are compiled in students' binders for reference. A complete list of these resources is available upon request.

Outline of Content:

First Quarter

Topics: How to succeed in Latin class; conversational Latin; benefits of Latin language study; Roman alphabet and Latin pronunciation; general introduction to ancient Rome and the Latin language.

Projects, papers, tests-schedule and types: Regular quizzes to assess unit and lesson objectives; "Who am I?" project; one major test.

Second Quarter

Topics: Basic Latin vocabulary lists and introductory Latin grammar; continuation of conversational Latin; English derivation words from Latin; the Roman monarchy under Etruscan rule and the revolution; Roman military expansion.

Projects, papers, tests-schedule and types: Regular quizzes to assess unit and lesson objectives; conversational Latin skits; one major test.

Third Quarter

Topics: Imperfect and future verb tenses; flexible syntax; Roman religion and mythology; the Roman Republic; Julius Caesar and the Roman Revolution; English derivations from Latin.

Projects, papers, tests-schedule and types: Weekly quizzes and one major test; academic essay comparing an aspect of Roman culture to American culture.

Fourth Quarter

Topics: Final study of basic Latin grammar and syntax; the Roman Empire and its "Fall;" Romance languages and their connection to Latin; Test-taking strategies and practice (via derivations).

Projects, papers, tests-schedule and types: Weekly quizzes and one major test; investigation into a foreign language (project).

Grading Structure/ Procedure/ Framework:

The letter grade is based on the school district's grading policy.