

**LATIN S110, THE ELEMENTS OF LATIN GRAMMAR**  
**27 MAY–28 JUNE, 2024 (Session A), M–F 9–12, PH 312**  
**LATIN S120, REVIEW OF GRAMMAR AND SELECTED READINGS**  
**1 JULY–2 AUGUST, 2024 (Session B), M–F 9–12, PH 312**

instructor: Timothy Robinson

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## **SYLLABUS**

*Latin's a dead language  
Dead as it can be  
First it killed the Romans  
Now it's killing me.*



Latin lyric and archaeological find ("Always look on the bright side of Latin.") courtesy of Professor Christina Kraus

Latin S110/120 provides a comprehensive introduction to classical Latin, with readings from a variety of authors, mainly from the period of the late Republic and early Empire (c. 100 BCE–100 CE). The first five weeks (Session A) will introduce the entire grammar of the language, along with readings of Latin poetry and prose in the original. Latin S120 (Session B) will comprise readings from two of the most stimulating authors of antiquity: selected letters from Pliny the Younger—which offer a fascinating perspective into the events and culture of the early Empire, including such topics as Imperial politics, slavery, women's lives, early Christianity, the eruption of Vesuvius, and correspondence back and forth between Pliny and the Emperor Trajan—as well as selections from the epic and elegiac poetry of Ovid, which are unsurpassed in their emotional, rhetorical, and formal range. We shall also sample some Imperial inscriptions. Upon completion of these courses (L1/2) students may continue in the L3/4 sequence at Yale. These courses may also fulfill the Latin requirement for certain Yale graduate students (check with your DGS).

**Required texts:** Latin s110 Moreland and Fleischer, *Latin: An Intensive Course* (ISBN 9780520031838; Latin s120 *Pliny the Younger: Selected Letters*, ed. Shelton (ISBN 9780865168408), *Selections from Ovid*, ed. Dunmore (ISBN 9781585100880).

**Recommended:** Students may want to purchase a simple soft-bound Latin dictionary, such as the Bantam or Collins Gem, with both Latin-to-English and English-to-Latin sections. For those with iPhones, iPads, etc. the University of Chicago has recently made available, *gratis et pro bono*, the extremely useful app Logeion, which contains several standard Greek and Latin dictionaries.

All books are available under this course listing at the Yale Bookstore, 77 Broadway.

Each class will meet from 9–12 with a break around 10:20. There will be short quizzes during the week at the beginning of class on forms and in-class exercises, along with evening homework (featuring translation into Latin) and textbook readings from original Latin texts. The grammar final for Latin S110 is scheduled for Friday 28 June, for S120 Friday 2 August.

We shall be covering a whole semester's worth of work in each five-week session, and attendance at all classes is mandatory. In case of illness or other personal emergency, please contact me immediately.

**Assessment:** Attendance and participation, 25%; Written assignments + quizzes, 45%; Exams (4 x 7.5%), 30%. Missed quizzes and exams may not be made up unless prior arrangements have been made.

### **Tentative Schedule:**

(Latin S110)

Week 1, 27 May–	course introduction, MF Units 1–3
Week 2, 3 June–	MF Units 4–7, readings from Catullus, Martial, Cicero
Week 3, 10 June–	MF Units 8–11, readings from Catullus, Martial, Seneca, Virgil
Week 4, 17 June–	MF Units 12–15, readings from Martial, Horace, Cicero, Petronius
Week 5, 24 June–	MF Units 16–18, review, readings from Seneca, Cicero, Caesar

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Week 6, 1 July–	Pliny 1.1, 1.6, 1.11, 1.15, 1.21, 3.11; Ovid selections
Week 7, 8 July–	Pliny 3.14, 4.11, 6.16, 6.20; Ovid selections
Week 8, 15 July–	Pliny 7.5, 7.19, 8.10, Ovid selections
Week 9, 22 July–	Pliny 9.6, 9.12, 9.36, Ovid selections
Week 10, 29 July–	Pliny 10.17, 10.33, 10.34 (from Trajan), 10.96, 10.97 (from Trajan); Ovid selections