

Latin A Level

OCR Advanced Subsidiary in Classics: Latin (AS) | Advanced Level (AS)
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You should do this course if.....

You have studied Latin up to GCSE and are interested in Roman culture and civilisation. An enormous part of what gives Europe its common identity is based on the language, culture and principles of ancient Rome. Latin was the international language of communication for centuries and used in medieval texts. Today, its influence can still be felt in the language of law, science, medicine and many European languages.

Additionally, you should have an awareness of ancient history as well as questions of philosophy and morality.

Skills you will develop on this course.

The language skills you will be developing are writing, reading and translation between Latin and English.

General skills include essay writing, text analysis and awareness of grammar. You will obtain a wide range of general knowledge on moral and cultural issues and gain insight into Roman culture and society.

Topics studied.

UNIT 1 (AS) Latin Language

You will study and read the language of authors of the 1st century BC and the 1st century AD. This is a language-based unit with the focus on learning Latin vocabulary and grammar.

UNIT 2 (AS) Latin Verse and Prose Literature

This unit involves the study of Latin texts within their literary, social and historical contexts as appropriate. You will learn to demonstrate an understanding of Latin literary techniques based on two set texts: one verse and one prose.

UNIT 3 (A2) Latin Verse

Section A: Prescribed Literature

Like in Unit 2, this unit involves the study of Latin texts within their literary, social and historical contexts as appropriate. You will learn to demonstrate an understanding of Latin literary techniques based on one verse set text.

Section B: Unprepared Translation and Comprehension

You study the language of authors of the 1st century BC and the 1st century AD and further develop your language skills of grammar and translation.

UNIT 4 (A2) Latin Prose

Two sections just like Unit 3, only here you study prose.

Units 3 and 4 are synoptic.

Latin

A Level

How will you learn?

You will be studying the language through grammar and translation exercises, often together in class. Model translations are used to develop your understanding of the language.

You will be reading the set texts, analysing and discussing them. Background reading is required to understand the historical and cultural context of the texts as well as how they have been interpreted by critics over the centuries.

Where does the course lead?

Due to the wide range of language and study skills acquired during the course, A Level Latin is a highly regarded qualification among university admission tutors. It combines well with humanities and arts subjects especially History, Law, Politics and a European language. Of course, A Level Latin is the requirement if you wish to read Latin at university. Latin would be a useful asset for anyone whose career aspirations involve the subjects mentioned above, but also journalism, science, government or politics.

Assessment and Exams.

Unit 1 (AS) Latin Language

This paper has **two** sections involving translations of previously unseen Latin into English.

Unit 2 (AS) Latin Verse and Prose

Section A: Prescribed Prose Literature

Candidates are required to answer **one** question on the prose author they studied.

Section B: Prescribed Verse Literature

Same as Section A, but based on Latin verse.

Unit 3 (A2) Latin Verse

Section A: Prescribed Literature

Candidates are required to answer **one** question on the verse author they studied.

Section B: Language – Unprepared Translation and Comprehension

Candidates are required to answer **one** question. Candidates translate approximately 10 lines from an unseen passage of Latin verse and answer comprehension questions on the passage.

Unit 4 (A2) Latin Prose

Section A: Prescribed Literature

Candidates are required to answer **one** question, set on the prose author they studied.

Section B: Language – Unprepared Translation and Comprehension or Prose Composition

Candidates **either** translate from an unseen passage of Latin prose and answer comprehension questions **or** they complete a prose composition

Entry Requirements.

At least 5C's at GCSE (including Latin) and a grade B in English.
Interest in Latin and in classical culture.