Introduction

Content Area: **World Languages**
Course(s): **AP Latin**
Time Period: **September**
Length: **1 block**
Status: **Published**

Enduring Understandings

- Effective comprehension of Latin is dependent on students' skill in identifying definitions and metrical devices in order to readily interpret summations and literal translations of Latin words.
- Mastery of reading and comprehension should stem from student's ability to appropriately identify and explain Latin phrases and grammar in order to interpret the writings in a historical and stylistic environment.
- The ability to combine the knowledge of use, grammar/syntax, morphology, and vocabulary of the Latin language should be implemented to create the most literal, yet reflective, translation possible.
- Expansion of understanding beyond the text is reached through contextualization of Roman politics, cultural ideals, and the backgrounds of the authors themselves.
- Contextual knowledge is informed through historical and mythological concepts.
- The synthesis of comprehension, translation, and contextualization should be clear in students' analysis of texts.
- Text analysis should seek to reflect upon the knowledge of the Latin work through clear and coherent arguments.

Essential Questions

The AP Latin course is structured around seven themes:

• Literary Genre and Style

• Roman Values

• War and Empire

• Leadership

• Views of Non-Romans

• History and Memory

• Human Beings and the Gods

Themes facilitate the integration of language, content, and culture and promote academic inquiry. The themes may be combined, as they are interrelated.

Theme 1: Literary Genre and Style

Essential Questions:

• What should we expect from a Latin epic or commentarii in terms of form and content? How do the authors confirm or challenge our expectations?

• What are the purposes and effects of Vergil's and Caesar's style?

• What points of view do Vergil and Caesar take when describing events? How do they represent themselves and for what purposes?

• What means do the authors use to develop characters in the works? How do the authors portray female characters?

• How do the authors use characterization to develop key themes?

Theme 2: Roman Values Essential Questions:

• What values and ideals are portrayed as characteristically Roman?

• How do these values and ideals differ based on gender, ethnicity, or other criteria?

• What strengths and weaknesses of character are exemplified by individuals in the works?

• How do the texts confirm characteristic Roman values? What questions do the texts raise about Roman values?

Theme 3: War and Empire Essential Questions:

• Why do wars happen? What questions do these works raise about the consequences of war?

• What questions do the works raise about diplomacy, negotiation, and peacemaking?

What are the perspectives of Vergil and Caesar concerning Roman imperialism?

What are the perceived purposes, benefits, and costs of empire?

• What are the effects of war on women and noncombatants?

• How do the texts portray enemy groups?

Theme 4: Leadership Essential Questions:

• What different types of leaders (both male and female) and leadership styles do we see in these works?

• How do leaders deal with setbacks and failures?

• How does a leader inspire others to follow?

Theme 5: Views of Non-Romans Essential Questions:

• In what ways do the authors portray the various non-Roman peoples that appear in the works? What criteria do they use to evaluate these groups?

• To what extent do the authors reinforce or challenge stereotypes of these groups?

• How do the authors use these portrayals in their works?

Theme 6: History and Memory Essential Questions:

• How do these works reflect the conflicts of the era in which they were written, both explicitly and implicitly?

• In what ways do the works reflect the impact of an individual on historical events?

• Within these works, how does shared experience build and sustain communities?

• How do the authors use historical exempla (heroic ancestors, critical events), and for what purposes?

• How do individuals in these works use their understanding of the past to create their present and future?

• How do the authors see the importance of historical events for the Roman people?

Theme 7: Human Beings and the Gods Essential Questions:

• What roles do the gods play and how are they perceived? To what extent do the gods of other peoples resemble those of the Romans?

• How do the authors portray fate? How does fate affect human beings?

• How and why do human beings and gods communicate with one another?

Content

The course is divided into 9 major units of study:

- UNIT 1, VERGIL, AENEID, Book 1
- UNIT 2, CAESAR, GALLIC WAR, Books 1 and 6
- UNIT 3, VERGIL, AENEID, Book 2
- UNIT 4, CAESAR, GALLIC WAR, Book 4
- UNIT 5, VERGIL, Book 4
- UNIT 6, CAESAR, GALLIC WAR, Book 5 Part 1

- UNIT 7, CAESAR, GALLIC WAR, Book 5 Part 2, Book 6 and Book 7
- UNIT 8, VERGIL, AENEID, Books 6, 8 and 12
- UNIT 9, POST AP TEST PROJECT - MYTHOLOGY

Skills

The AP Latin course provides students with opportunities to demonstrate their proficiency in each area of the course by addressing the following learning objectives.

Students are expected to

• Read and comprehend Latin poetry and prose from selected authors with appropriate assistance;

• Translate previously prepared Latin texts into English as literally as possible;

• Relate the Latin texts to Roman historical, cultural, and literary contexts; and

• Analyze linguistic and literary features of one or more Latin texts.

Resources

Assessments

Standards