

IB LATIN

Entry Requirement

Latin is offered at both Standard and Higher Level to pupils who have achieved at least a grade 6 at GCSE.

Introduction

Latin is offered within the IB Diploma Course, where it may be studied as an alternative to a modern foreign language in Group 2, or as an elective subject in Group 6. The department offers Latin at both Standard and Higher Level to pupils who have achieved at least a B grade at GCSE. IB Latin involves gaining a deeper understanding and appreciation of Latin language and literature by reading a wide range of unabridged texts in the original language.

One week you might be studying a vehement law-court attack by Cicero upon a corrupt official or a bitter rival; the next week you might study a tender love-poem or a biting satirical epigram by Catullus, a playful and imaginative retelling of a well-known myth by Ovid, or the stirring and exciting account of the hero Aeneas' epic journey to Italy. It's the sheer variety which makes Roman literature so fresh and engaging.

Syllabus Content

There are 3 parts to the course, which are the same for both Higher and Standard Level:

Part One: Latin Language (35%)

Pupils are required to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of Latin language, grammar and vocabulary by translating a passage of unseen Latin verse into English. Pupils will study Ovid's greatest work; The Metamorphoses in order to develop language translation skills for the exam. Pupils will be required to translate a passage from Ovid, using a Latin dictionary for help!

Part Two: Latin Literature Genre Study (45%)

In this Unit, pupils develop the skills needed to show knowledge, understanding and appreciation of Latin texts within their literary, social and historical contexts. They will study two set texts and will have to show their detailed understanding of the texts by answering comprehension and translation questions. In addition, they will develop their understanding of Latin literary techniques, and will produce personal responses to the Latin texts. In recent years, pupils have studied Tacitus, Livy, Catullus and Virgil.

Part Three: Research Dossier (20%)

Pupils will also work over the two year course on an annotated collection of source materials relating to a topic in classical history, literature, language, religion, mythology, art, archaeology of the pupil's own choosing. The Research Dossier allows the pupil to specialize and study an aspect of the classical world that really interests them. The final dossier is internally assessed and externally moderated.