

**Bedford High School**  
**Foreign Language Department**  
**Dana Curran, Interim Program Director**

**COURSE SYLLABUS 2015-2016**

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**Course:** **4264 - Advanced Latin Poetry**

**Periods per cycle:** 4

**Credit:** 5

**Level:** Honors

This course is designed to develop reading ability in the target language and increase understanding and appreciation of Classical literature, history, and culture, with an emphasis on Roman epic and lyric poetry. Students read and discuss selections from the works of Catullus, Ovid, and Vergil. Through these texts, selected grammar topics and vocabulary are also introduced and reinforced.

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Latin II (#4224) or Advanced Latin Prose (#4254) with a grade of 70 or better.

**I. Learning Objectives** (A statement of learning objectives is a statement of changes to take place in students.)

By the completion of this course, the successful student will have learned:

- to form and recognize all tenses of the subjunctive, and to translate sentences in which they are used.
- to recognize all common Latin grammatical structures within the difficult context of poetic word order and elliptical expression.
- to identify and appreciate various devices and techniques of the Roman poets, and analyze how their use contributes to a poem's impact.
- to analyze Roman metrical patterns and scan poems at sight.
- to translate lyric poems of Catullus and analyze rhythm, tone, theme, and imagery, with an understanding of the neoteric and elegiac traditions.
- to translate sections of Ovid's *Metamorphoses* and analyze rhythm, tone, theme, and imagery, with an understanding of the epic and mythological traditions.
- to translate sections of Vergil's *Aeneid* and analyze rhythm, tone, theme, and imagery, with an understanding of the epic tradition and the Augustan historical context.

**II. Learning Experiences** (A learning experience is the interaction between the learner and the external conditions in the environment to which he/she can react.)

In this course, students will:

- prepare translations at home and correct, discuss, and critique these translations in class.
- participate in metrical analysis and oral recitation of poetry in class.
- analyze complex grammatical structures and participate in whole-class review of grammar topics as necessary.
- complete regular writing assignments analyzing a poet's technique and a poem's impact.
- read about, research, and discuss the historical and literary context of each author.
- research, develop, and present projects which extend cultural and linguistic understanding.

**III. Course Outline** (A brief outline of the major topics and units which are central to this course: the sequence of topics and units may be altered by the teacher based on the needs of students):

- Review of Grammar from Latin 1-2
- Subjunctive: present and perfect tenses, usage of all tenses
- Catullus: Poems to Friends, Poems to Poets, Insulting Poems
- Catullus: Love Poems, Elegies
- The Neoteric Poets
- Latin Love Elegy
- Ovid: Pygmalion

- Ovid: Orpheus & Eurydice
- *Metamorphoses* & the Epic Tradition
- Vergil's Aeneid – selections from books 1, 2, 4, and/or 12 in Latin
- Vergil's Aeneid (entire) in English
- Augustus, the Civil Wars, the Creation of the Principate

**IV. Course Materials:** The following list represents the major texts and/or resources used in Advanced Latin Poetry. Teachers also use additional supplementary texts: articles, materials and curriculum documents which they have gathered or prepared themselves and which they believe enrich and extend student learning.

Lawall, Gilbert. *Ecce Romani II*: Prentice Hall, 1995.

Catullus Poems 1, 2, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 22, 35, 43, 50, 51, 85;

Ovid *Metamorphoses* X.1-77, 243-297; Vergil *Aeneid* I.1-33, II.21-56, IV.160-195, and/or XII.930-952

#### **Foreign Language Departmental Essential Questions**

- Why is it important to be able to communicate in another language?
- Why is it important to understand and respect other cultures?
- Why is it important to understand the workings of a language?

