LATN 253-01H Livy

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LATN 253H: Livy

Xavier University  TR 10:00-11:15 am  Schott 1001
Instructor:  Dr. Shannon LaFayette-Hogue
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Office:  Schott 809
Office Hours:  TR 1:00 – 2:00 PM or by appointment

Description and Goals: The main purpose of this course is to hone your ability to translate Latin prose, which we will do through a close reading of selections from Livy’s *Ab Urbe Condita*. Through our readings we will discuss the development of Roman historiography, the rise of the Roman monarchy and republic, Livy’s style and social and political milieu. We will also be looking at Livian scholarship and writing research papers.

Required Texts
Supplemental readings on Canvas

Recommended Text

Student Responsibilities and Attendance:
- read all assignments before class and come prepared to translate
- bring all relevant materials to class
- give this class the appropriate time it needs
- take notes and ask questions
- be courteous to other students and your teacher
- come to class on time
- attend class regularly and on time

NB: Success in this course is directly proportional to attendance; you are responsible for all material covered in class—not all of which derives from readings—and all changes made to the assignments regardless of your attendance. This course cannot be taken in absentia. After three excused absences your total grade for the course will be lowered by one letter grade and your grade will continue to drop with each successive absence. If circumstances arise that cause you to miss class more than the attendance policy allows, you need to drop this course and take it again when you are able to complete its requirements in accordance with the attendance policy. Unexcused absences are not allowed and you will lose one percentage point from your total grade.

In the event of an excused absence:
- read/translate the material assigned for the class on the previous meeting
- contact a classmate to determine what was covered (do not contact me)
- borrow a classmate’s notes for the date

You need an XU account (e-mail account that ends xavier.edu) and access to Canvas and other XU sites in order to keep abreast of assignments and manage course information and material. If you do not have daily access to XU websites, you cannot successfully fulfill the requirements this course.
If you are a student athlete or student with a disability or special needs and you need special services or assistance, please let me know as soon as possible.

Common Courtesy:
- Come to class on time. If you come a little late, enter and take your seat quietly. If you come late or leave early by more than 20 minutes, you will be counted absent for that day.
- Be thoughtful of other students. Do not engage in discussions while others are translating.
- Turn off cell phones and put away all electronic and Internet gadgets before class.
- Do not read outside material or prepare work for other classes during our time together.
- Do not wear hats, hoods, or baseball caps to tests.
- Do not bring friends or relatives of any age to class without prior permission.
You will be dismissed from class and need to meet with the Dean for permission to return if you are not mindful of the above rules for common courtesy.

Grading and Assignments

Departmental Grade Scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>92-91</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84-83</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76-75</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100-95</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-87</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82-79</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74-72</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69-0</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students can expect a grade of “C” for meeting the requirements stated in this syllabus. To earn above a “C”, students must demonstrate above average (“B”) or outstanding (“A”) performance. It is my policy not to discuss grades without an appointment. If you have a question about your grade, you must make an appointment or come see me during office hours. No Incompletes will be given.

Your grade for this course will be an average of the following (barring participation problems)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 exams</td>
<td>@ 25 % each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ancient Historian Presentation</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article Summaries (5)</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Exams:** There will be two exams – a mid-term and a final (Tues., Oct. 13 and Thurs., Dec. 17, 8:30-10:20 am). Exams will focus on translation, grammar, and syntax for seen passages and may include short answer or essay questions on material covered in class. The Final Exam time and date cannot be changed for any reason without permission from the Dean.

**Ancient Historian Presentation:** Present a 5 minute report on an ancient historian assigned in class. Bring copies for everyone of a 1 page handout including biographical information, works written, works lost/extant, period covered by the historian, how we can find the works, and any other important points about the historian.

**Article Summaries:** You will be assigned 6 articles to read and summarize. Article summaries must be at least one page, no longer than one and a half pages: 12 pt. Times New Roman font, 1 in. margins. You must complete 5 of the 6 summaries to earn full credit for this section of your grade. Summary 1 and Summary 6 are required. Between Summaries 2-5, you have one “freebee” that you can skip/drop. You can earn extra credit (added to your final exam score) for completing all 6 summaries.

**Research Paper:** Consider this paper as an opportunity to explore a topic that interests you and to compose a written essay wherein you demonstrate to yourself and to your instructor how well you can state what you know and how well you can analyze and interpret evidence.

**Topics:** Practically any topic related to the general themes treated in this course is appropriate. Confine your topic to manageable proportions! For example: “Livy” is too big – a somewhat more suitable topic might be
“Livy’s Portrayal of L. Brutus.” Likewise, “Roman History” is also too broad, but there is enough evidence to do a good, brief paper on some aspect of Roman history. You need not write a paper on a specific topic; instead, you may choose to write a critical book review, wherein you compare and contrast two (or more) modes and methods of presenting and interpreting topics pertinent to this course. You must submit a topic proposal and schedule an appointment with me to discuss it.

Evaluation, Scope and Format: Your paper will be graded for content, clarity, and accuracy of written expression. Your paper must be between 8-10 double-spaced, Times New Roman 12 pt font, one-inch margined pages with page numbers in the bottom right corner. Your paper should include, as appropriate, footnotes and references in an HAB format and style. Internet sources must be pre-approved.

Schedule:
Thursday 10/15 submit a 1-2 page statement of your intended topic. This needs to be more than a paragraph. Include a bibliography with a minimum of 5 items that you have already examined relevant to your paper. Online sources need to be pre-approved.
Friday 12/11 final papers are due. Late papers are subject to the penalty stated below and will not be accepted after 12/16.

Translation and Participation:
For translation in class you may not read off of a fully written English translation. Translate only from the Latin text. As you translate at home, keep a vocabulary/grammar list of your own making in a separate notebook that you can refer to in class. Keep interlinear notations to a bare minimum; your Latin text should be clear and visible. Translation and participation are essential to this course. Grades are not given for participation; however you will lose one percentage point from your class total for each day you are unprepared to translate. Always consult the commentary in your text as you translate.

Late Assignments:
All work must be completed on time. You will lose 10% the first day and 5% each successive day for late summaries, presentations, and papers. Tests must be taken at the scheduled dates during class. Make ups cannot be administered except for emergencies documented by the Dean, must be taken within a week of documentation, and may differ from the original. Please write legibly. Points deducted for unclear penmanship cannot be made up.

Academic Honesty (from XU’s handbook):
“The pursuit of truth demands high standards of personal honesty. Academic and professional life requires a trust based upon integrity of the written and spoken word. Accordingly, violations of certain standards of ethical behavior will not be tolerated at Xavier University. These include theft, cheating, plagiarism, unauthorized assistance in assignments and tests, unauthorized copying of computer software, the falsification of results and material submitted in reports or admission and registration documents, and the falsification of any academic record including letters of recommendation.

All work submitted for academic evaluation must be the student’s own. Certainly, the activities of other scholars will influence all students. However, the direct and unattributed use of another’s efforts is prohibited as is the use of any work untruthfully submitted as one’s own.

Penalties for violations of this policy may include one or more of the following: a zero for that assignment or test, an “F” in the course, and expulsion from the University. The dean of the college in which the student is enrolled is to be informed in writing of all such incidents, though the teacher has full authority to assign the grade for the assignments, test, or course. If disputes of interpretation arise, the student, faculty member, and chair should attempt to resolve the difficulty. If this is unsatisfactory, the dean will rule in the matter. As a final appeal, the academic vice president will call a committee of tenured faculty for the purpose of making a final determination.”