

SYLLABUS FOR BEGINNERS' LATIN COURSE

1. Main language forms to be taught:

A. Verb forms: third person singular and plural, active and passive, in the present, imperfect and perfect tenses. [First and second person forms will be held off until an intermediate-level course, though they will be glossed if they occur in readings.]

B. Noun and adjective forms: nominative, accusative and ablative, singular and plural.

C. Interrogative adverbs and pronouns (forms as for nouns).

2. Speaking, reading and writing practice:

A. Readings will consist of proverbs and short sentences, as often as possible from the Nova Vulgata, to illustrate the targetted language forms and to encourage students to use these forms orally and in writing. Students will have the printed Latin text with English translation so that they feel more confident.

B. Oral practice will consist of substitution drills to widen vocabulary as well as short-answer questions .

C. Each lesson will include about ten minutes of writing practice, so that the teacher can encourage and correct the students' writing.

3. Teaching of grammar and vocabulary:

Each lesson will include a detailed explanation of the lesson's language content and of its vocabulary, with attention to English derivatives.

4. Gospel text:

The Gospel text for the following Sunday's Latin Mass will be read. An English translation will be provided.

PRÉCIS OF SYLLABUS FOR BEGINNERS' LATIN COURSE

Instruction in the most necessary language forms, with readings and oral and written practice from real Latin texts which use only the targetted language forms.

Lessons will include reading of the next week's Sunday Gospel in Latin (with English translation).

SYLLABUS FOR INTERMEDIATE LATIN COURSE

Each 90-minute lesson will have four components:

1. Readings from the Acts of the Apostles from the Nova Vulgata.

In thirteen weeks, only chapters 1 to 12 or thereabouts can be included.

2. Vocabulary explanation, revision and extension.

3. Explanation and reading and oral practice of targetted language forms.

This will depend on students' needs, but will likely include future and pluperfect tenses, present participles, present and perfect infinitives, relative pronouns and relative clauses; perhaps present and imperfect subjunctive. Written practice will be recommended for home study.

4. Readings from classical and liturgical texts:

Classical readings will most likely be chosen from the letters of Cicero and Pliny the Younger; liturgical texts will be from the Roman Breviary (but not hymns because of their complicated language forms). Students' preferences will be the main criterion for choosing texts. Printed English translations will be provided, to bolster students' confidence.

PRÉCIS OF SYLLABUS FOR INTERMEDIATE LATIN COURSE

Readings from the Acts of the Apostles and from classical texts, especially letters of Cicero and Pliny; revision and instruction in language forms used in the readings; vocabulary explanation, revision and extension; oral practice to help students make the targetted vocabulary and language forms their own; writing exercises for private study.