

## AP Latin Course Syllabus 2012-13

**Overview:** The history of Rome establishes a template for leadership in the military and political world of future generations. “*I sing of arms and the man . . .*” these short words, express a central theme of the first century BCE and of the two works of literature on this syllabus: *The Aeneid* of Vergil and Caesar’s *De Bello Gallico*. The course will focus on not only the development of the ability to write a literal English translation of a Latin passage, but also to identify and analyze features of the authors’ expression, including word choice and placement, imagery, figures of speech, sound and metrical effects. Students will also discuss particular motifs relevant to the works and analyze characters and situations as portrayed in specific passages. Students will be given weekly practice in reading at sight and daily practice in translating literally as well as oral reading in dactylic hexameter verse and literary interpretation.

**AP Summer Assignment:** Over the summer before the course begins, students will complete the following two requirements. Students will be assessed on these requirements when they return to school:

- read Vergil’s *Aeneid* Books I and II in English in their entirety, for the continuity of the story line. (translations available to borrow from teacher, if necessary).
- high-frequency Vergil vocabulary activity, list provided by teacher.

**Course Goals:** For AP, the completion of the required reading list (see syllabus calendar) is key to successful completion of course requirements as well as the development of the reading and translating skills necessary for success on the exam. All students will be introduced to themes commonly studied in the *Aeneid* and in *De Bello Gallico*.

With these goals in mind, students will:

- prepare literal translation assignments (see syllabus calendar).
- develop the ability to read Latin at sight, given the time spent on daily class preparation and emphasis on sight reading section of tests every three to four weeks (see below).
- complete lessons from student texts for each specified passage on the syllabus calendar (graded).  
Most lessons include:
  - ✓ the full Latin selection for practice from a “clean” text,
  - ✓ English comprehension questions,
  - ✓ short answer/matching/multiple choice grammar questions,
  - ✓ scansion practice,
  - ✓ an essay to correspond with the lines read.
- complete essay questions corresponding to Vergil and Caesar text read (previous AP exams or teacher-generated questions) one every two weeks.
- complete full-period tests every three to four lessons with three to five of the following sections, as student needs arise:
  - ✓ literal translation of 10-15 already-prepared lines or short passages for identification of speaker, audience and situation.
  - ✓ identification of the grammar of teacher-selected words from a text they have prepared
  - ✓ scansion (sight).
  - ✓ identification of rhetorical devices, geography, deities, minor characters, etc. as appropriate to selected text.
  - ✓ translation of a short passage at sight or questions on a sight text

- complete practice sight passage multiple choice questions from various texts (Ovid, Livy, Cicero, and similar) every other week (usually the night after a test)
- take the AP Exam in May.
- complete an additional project (of the students' choosing) after the AP exam until the end of the school year.

Class time will be spent:

- reading Latin orally with attention to inflection and scansion
- translating literally lines due for that week (for a grade, interspersed with literary analysis and grammar questions)
- examining intervening translated passages to maintain continuity of text
- completing lessons corresponding to lines read in student texts
- discussing themes present in the *Aeneid* and *De Bello Gallico*
- completing tests every 3-4 weeks on lessons covered

### **Grading:**

Marking period (quarterly) grades will be averaged using the following percentages:

Assignments from Student Texts  
 Additional Essays/Questions  
 Graded Translation/Quiz (open notes)  
 Tests

Final grades will be averaged using the following percentages:

Marking Period 1	20%
Marking Period 2	20%
Marking Period 3	20%
Marking Period 4	20%
Midterm:	10%
Final Project:	10%

### **Synopsis of Topics Covered for Basis of Class Discussions and Essays:**

- Vergil's *Aeneid* in an historical context; Augustus' rise to power
- Epic as a genre
- Scansion
- Rhetorical Devices and Figures of Speech
- Stylistics (mood, imagery, theme, tone, allusions, how meter enhances Vergil's poetry)
- Peculiarities of grammar in poetry
- Themes in Vergil's *Aeneid*
  - ✓ leadership
  - ✓ furor and ira (Aeneas vs. Turnus)
  - ✓ ignis (fall of Troy, Dido and Aeneas)
  - ✓ political agenda (glorification of Marcellus)
  - ✓ women (Dido, Camilla, etc.)
  - ✓ fate and free will (Aeneas and Turnus, Bk. XII)
- The *Aeneid* as a whole
- Historical context of *De Bello Gallico*
- War commentary as genre

- Efficiency of style in Caesar
- Patterns of grammar in Caesar's prose
- Themes in Caesar's *De Bello Gallico*
  - ✓ leadership
  - ✓ political maneuvering
  - ✓ Caesar's voice: inclusion and omission
  - ✓ political agenda
  - ✓ a Roman's view of "the other"
  - ✓ war strategy

## Vergil: Schedule of Readings

**note that readings from Quinn's *Why Vergil?* will be added as time permits**  
*students should expect spot question quizzes on previous night's assignment three to four times per week*

<i>Dates Completed</i>	<i>Book</i>	<i>Lines</i>	<i># of lines</i>	<i>Summary</i>
3 days	I and II	all, in English	NA	<i>Test on summer assignment:</i> introduction, plan of the poet, importance of the poem, relevance to Roman history
3 days	I	1-33	33	Invocation of the Muse, establishment of themes
5 days	I	34-80	47	Trojans set out for Italy, Juno asks Aeolus to send forth a storm, Amsco Lesson 47
4 days	I	81-131	51	Storm, Amsco Lesson 46
7 days	I	132-179	48	Neptune intervenes
5 days	I	180-209	43	Landing at Carthage, lament over lost comrades
2 days	I	418-440	23	Aeneas and Achates approach the city and marvel at the wonders of Carthage.
8 days	I	494-578	85	The Trojans and Dido meet in Carthage.
1 day	II	40-56	17	Aeneas agrees to tell the story of the fall of Troy, begins with the wooden horse
5 days	II	199-249	51	Laocoon and his sons, Trojans decide to bring the horse into the city
5 days	II	250-297	48	Night falls, the ghost of Hector appears to Aeneas in a dream
2 days	II	559-620	62	Aeneas, in the midst of the death of Priam in his peristyle garden, remembers his family Aeneas makes his way through the city to his home
1 day	IV	<i>entirety in English</i>		<i>Students read Book. IV and are assessed on content.</i>
6 days	IV	160-218	59	Aeneas and Dido come together into the cave, Rumor flies throughout the city, Iarbus becomes a threat to Dido and Carthage.
6 days	IV	259-361	103	Aeneas does not know what to say to Dido, Dido urges Aeneas to stay, Aeneas recalls his duty
5 days	IV	659-705	47	Dido's suicide
1 day	VI	<i>entirety in English</i>		<i>Students read Book. VI and are assessed on content.</i>
4 days	VI	295-332	38	Descent into the underworld
4 days	VI	384-425	42	Crossing of the Styx
8 days	VI	450-476+847-899	80	Dido in the underworld, Anchises displays a parade of what Rome will be (Marcellus), Aeneas sets sail up the Italian coast toward Latium
1 day	VIII	<i>entirety in English</i>		<i>Students read Book. VIII and are assessed on content.</i>
1 day	XII	<i>entirety in English</i>		<i>Students read Book. XII and are assessed on content.</i>

**86 days**

## Caesar: Schedule of Readings

*students should expect spot question quizzes on previous night's assignment three to four times per week*

<i>Days to Complete</i>	<i>Book</i>	<i>Chapter(s)</i>	<i># of lines</i>	<i>Summary</i>
1 day	I	1	NA	Geography of Gaul
2 days		2-4		Orgetorix, ambition and downfall
2 days		5-6		Caesar thwarts the Helvetii
1 day		7		Caesar hastens to Gaul
1 day	4	24		The Britons prevent the landing
1 day		25		Caesar brings on war
1 day		26		Britons are put to flight
1 day		27		Britons are on their knees
4 days		28-31		The weather is not in Caesar's favor, destroys fleet, Britons attack, Caesar repairs fleet
1 day		32		Britons surprise attack one legion
1 day		33		Britons and their war chariots
1 day		34		Caesar rescues imperiled legion, Britons march against camp
2 days		35-36		Britons put to flight, Caesar returns to Gaul
1 day	5	24		Winter quarters
1 day		25		Assassination of Tasgetius
1 day		26		Failed attack of Ambiorix and Catuvolcus
1 day		27		Ambiorix advises Sabinus
4 days		28-31		War council
5 days		32-36		Ambiorix attacks
1 day		37		Sabinus is killed, Roman troops annihilated
1 day		38		Ambiorix incites the Atuatuci and the Nervii
2 days		39-40		Attack begins, defense
1 day		41		Cicero refuses to deal with armed enemy
1 day		42		Nervii adapt Roman siege methods
2 days		43		Desperate assault resolutely repelled
1 day		44		Rivalry of Pullo and Vorenus
4 days		45-48		Communication from slave to Caesar to Cicero
1 day	6	13-14		Druids and Knights, political and religious power
1 day		15		Knights and retainers
1 day		16		Religious observances
1 day		17		Gallic pantheon
1 day		18		Measurement of time, Roman difficulties
1 day		19		Dowries, status of wives, funerals
1 day		20		Unauthorized publication of political news forbidden

**52 Days**

*Credit: Chris Francese, Dickinson College, [http://wiki.dickinson.edu/index.php/Book\\_1.1-7](http://wiki.dickinson.edu/index.php/Book_1.1-7)*

## Student Texts

LaFleur, Richard. *A Song of War: Readings from Vergil's Aeneid*. Pearson Education Inc. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: 2012.

Perry, David J. *A Call to Conquest: Readings from Caesar's Gallic Wars*. Pearson Education, Inc. Boston, Massachusetts: 2013.

## Study Aides for Reading and Translating

Aronson, Andrew C. *Selections from Caesar's De Bello Gallico*. Pearson Education Inc. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: 2012.

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Bradley, Katherine and Boyd, Barbara Weiden. *A Vergil Workbook*. Bolchazy-Carducci Publishers, Inc. Wauconda, Illinois: 2006.

Caesar, Gaius Iulius. *The Gallic War*. tr. H.J. Edwards. Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts: 1914.

Commager, Steele, ed. *Virgil: A Collection of Critical Essays*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, 1966.

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Frendlich, Charles I. *Review Text in Latin, Three and Four Years (Prose and Poetry)*. Amsco School Publications, Inc. New York: 1967.

Maclardy, Archibald. *Parsed Vergil, Completely Scanned-Parsed Vergil's Aeneid, Book I with Interlinear and Marginal Translations*. Bolchazy-Carducci Publisher, Inc. Wauconda, Illinois: 2005.

Mueller, Hans-Friedrich. *Caesar: Selections from De Bello Gallico*. Bolchazy-Carducci Publishers, Inc. Wauconda, Illinois: 2012.

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Fairclough, H. Rushton. *Virgil (Loeb Edition), vols. I and II*. Harvard University Press. Cambridge: 1965.

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Hammond, Carolyn. *Caesar The Gallic War*. Oxford University Press, Oxford: 2008.

- Humphries, Rolfe, trans. *The Aeneid of Virgil: A Verse Translation*. MacMillan, New York: 1987.
- Mackail, J.W. *Virgil and his Meaning to the World of To-Day*. Longmans, Green and Company. New York: 1927.
- Mandelbaum, Allen, trans. *The Aeneid of Virgil: A Verse Translation*. Berkely and Los Angeles: University of California Press: 1981.
- Quinn, Stephanie, ed. *Why Vergil? A Collection of Interpretations*. Bolchazy-Carducci Publisher, Inc. Wauconda, Illinois: 2005.
- Tatum, W. Jeffrey. *Always I am Caesar*. Wiley-Blackwell, New York: 2008.

### **Teacher Sources for Sight Passages**

**sources listed are in addition to previous;y-released exam multiple choice questions**

- ed. Morris, Edward P. and Morris, Morgan H. *The Text of Episodes from Caesar's Civil War and the Text of Nepos' Lives for Sight Reading*. American Book Company. New York: 1895.
- Post, Edwin. *Latin at Sight*. Ginn and Company, Publishers. Boston: 1895.
- ed. Poteat, Hubert McNeill. *Selected Letters of Cicero*. D. C. Heath and Company, Boston: 1931.
- ed. Pretor, Alfred. *Letters of Cicero to Atticus*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge: 1898.
- ed. Westcott, J. H. *Selected Letters of Pliny*. Allyn and Bacon. Boston: 1898.
- ed. Wilson, S. J.. *The Thought of Cicero*. G Bell and Sons, Ltd., London: 1964.