**Curriculum**

**Middle School Latin**

**Course Overview**

Middle School Latin is offered to eighth grade students who display high motivation and strong academic talents. The Latin course introduces students to fundamental Latin grammar and vocabulary, delineating etymology and derivatives, which strengthen SAT vocabulary, as well as offering a foundation in classical mythology, art, history and culture. Through a lively and varied approach, the overall aim of the course is to demonstrate that Latin is still very much alive! This elective lasts the entire year, meets four times a week, and covers all the requirements for the introductory level of the National Latin Exam, which is administered to the students in March. Both written and creative assignments will be given, as well as regular memorization and review.

**Department Standards**

* Students will use the target language to develop interpersonal, presentational and interpretive modes of communication.
* Students will develop cross-cultural skills and understanding.

**Benchmarks**:

**Course Benchmarks**

The students will:

1. develop skills to think clearly and logically.

2. improve their understanding of English and the Romance languages.

3. develop an appreciation of Roman civilization and its relevance to our western culture of today.

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**Performance Indicators**

**First Quarter Performance Indicators**

The students will:

Identify important events in Roman history

Locate cities and present-day countries that were a part of the Roman Empire

Explain the way Roman numerals are used in our society today

Translate Roman numeral into Arabic numerals

Describe the clothes the Romans wore

Describe the types of houses Romans lived in

Identify parts of speech

Explain the purpose of the nominative case and how it is used in a sentence

Explain the purpose of the accusative case and how it is used in a sentence

Differentiate between singular and plural nouns in the nominative and accusative cases

Memorize Latin vocabulary

**Second Quarter Performance Indicators**

The students will:

Discuss the maxims of the philosopher-emperor, Marcus Aurelius

Evaluate a historical novel

Identify writing techniques used by Pliny the Younger and Marcus Aurelius

Demonstrate usage of a variety of writing techniques

Explain the purpose and use of the ablative case

List the prepositions that take the accusative

List the prepositions that take the ablative

Memorize verb endings

Explain types of verbs and the purpose and use of verb endings

Explain the purpose and use of the vocative case

Memorize Latin vocabulary

**Third Quarter Performance Indicators**

The students will:

Identify important Roman monuments

Identify the main Roman gods and goddesses

Compare the Roman gods and goddesses to the Greek gods and goddesses

Explain the purpose and use of the genitive case

Explain the purpose and use of the dative case

Identify the endings for imperfect tense verbs

Identify the endings for future tense verbs

Memorize Latin vocabulary

**Fourth Quarter Performance Indicators**

The students will:

Demonstrate effective techniques in public speaking

Translate and discuss various wall graffiti found in the Roma city of Pompeii

Translate the story Cicero’s Son

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**Assessments**

**Assessments and Common Assignments**

**First Quarter:** Translations, reading aloud in class, tests on Roman history and way of life, and chapters 1-4 in text, project on common Roman phrases

**Second Quarter:** Translations, reading aloud in class, tests on chapters 5-7 in text, project on common Roman abbreviations, project on maxims, book report, assignment on writing techniques

**Third Quarter:** Translations, reading aloud in class, tests on chapters 8-11 in text, review for National Latin Exam, administration of the NLE

**Fourth Quarter:** Critique delivery of speeches given in class based on performance indicators, handouts and worksheets, checking translations

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**Core Topics**

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History and geography of Rome

Roman culture and way of life

Latin grammar and vocabularyReview for the National Latin ExamPublic speaking

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**Specific Content**

**First Quarter Specific Content**

Overview of Roman history

Locations within the Roman Empire

Roman numerals

Cultural life of the Romans

Sentence patterns

Use of the nominative case

Use of the accusative case

Singular and plural nouns

Agreement of adjectives

Latin vocabulary

**Second Quarter Performance Indicators**

Philosophy of Marcus Aurelius

Techniques of Roman writers

Use of the ablative case

Use of prepositions

Types of verbs and their endings

Use of the vocative case

Latin vocabulary

**Third Quarter Performance Indicators**

Roman monuments

Roman religion

Use of the genitive case

Use of the dative case

Use of the imperfect tense

Use of the future tense

Latin vocabulary

**Fourth Quarter Performance Indicators**

Roman Trials

Pompeii wall graffiti

Ciceronis Filius (Cicero’s Son)

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**Resources**

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Oxford Latin Course, Part I

Maurice Balme and James Morwood

Oxford University Press

Pocket Oxford Latin Dictionary

Oxford University Press

Webster’s New World Dictionary

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

A Brief History of Rome

Rob Hudgens

An Eighth Grader’s Guide to Philosophy

Rob Hudgens

Cursus Honorum

Rob Hudgens

Writing like the Romans

Rob Hudgens

Roman City

David Macaulay

PBS Home Video

Oxford Latin Course, Part I

Maurice Balme and James Morwood

Oxford University Press

The Orator’s Education

Quintilian

Rob Hudgens, ed.

In addition:

A variety of handouts and maps

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