# Teaching Latin

## Prof. Gianenrico Manzoni

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course aims to provide students with the key concepts and skills they need to face the issues related to the teaching of Latin in Italian schools. The historical-linguistic method. In addition, it aims to explore and go beyond the *clichés* in this field, as well as introduce the National Guidelines about teaching and learning in general upper secondary education. Teaching the metre of epic poetry. Finally, students will have the opportunity to apply some of the teaching methods explained in class to a text by Virgil.

*Intended learning outcomes*

*KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING*

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

-analyse a poetic text in the complexity of its meaning;

-master morpho-syntactic structures;

- understand the historical and literary meaning of a text

*ABILITY TO APPLY KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING*

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

- use the reading of poetic texts for a general understanding of the author’s thought;

-extend the consideration of a single text to the complexities of translation from Latin;

- use the text from a teaching perspective in secondary schools.

***COURSE CONTENT***

a) Theory: Latin in the national guidelines. The historical-linguistic method in teaching Latin. The methodological approach: from Latin to Italian. The *didattica breve* method of accelerated teaching/learning. Essential vocabulary. The Ørberg-Miraglia method.

b) Practical part: Reading the metre of the dactylic hexameter. Reading, from a teaching perspective, of a selection of passages from the third and the eighth book of the Aeneid by Virgil.

***READING LIST***

For classroom reading of Virgil carried out by the lecturers during frontal lectures and practical activities: VIRGILIO, *Eneide,* Mondadori, Brescia 2019.

Reading of the morphology and the syntax pages specified under the title ALTIUS in the textbook by GIAN ENRICO MANZONI-CHIARA FILIPPINI- DANIELA SGARZI, *Verba nostra.* *Teoria*, Zanichelli, Bologna 2022.

***TEACHING METHOD***

The lecturer will deliver frontal lectures; the practical session teacher will guide students in the reading of the texts. Interactive group reflection on some of the didactic principles related to Latin teaching.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Two-part oral exam: the first part is conducted by the teacher responsible for the practical classes and is based on passages from Virgil's text - which she will have translated during the practical classes - and the didactic topics covered in the lectures. The second part is conducted by the main lecturer, and begins with the presentation of the ALTIUS sections of the textbook by *Verba nostra. Teoria* mentioned above, followed by the reading, translation, and teaching commentary of some passages from the Aeneid by Virgil, and the assessment of the students’ knowledge of the explanations taking place during the course.

The final assessment is a combination of the marks awarded for the various elements of each of the two parts of the exam, i.e. knowledge of the issues involved in Latin language teaching, the ability to read it correctly, the ability to understand and translate the poetic pieces analysed in class, and higher-secondary-school knowledge of the main morpho syntactic phenomena of Latin. The final mark is given out of 30 and is the average of the marks awarded for the two parts of the exam.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

Class attendance is not compulsory, yet strongly recommended. As with any other ancient or modern language, the listening to/interaction with the lecturer can be a useful tool to develop language skills. In the study of Latin, this can also help read the different terms in a more precise way, thanks to a correct use of quantitative metre based on syllables.

The prerequisite is a basic knowledge of Latin grammar and syntax at an upper secondary school level. The prerequisite literary knowledge required (but still recoverable in a textbook on the history of Latin literature) will be limited to the single author read and studied, namely Virgil.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.