# Latin Literature (Second Cycle Degree)

## Prof. Luigi Galasso

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

The Latin Literature course for students on the Letters degree programme, with a profile in Classic Letters, aims to provide suitable specialist skills by analysing texts and themes of Latin literary culture. Using the methods and tools of textual exegesis and literary research, the course aims to examine original-language Latin poetry, with linguistic, literary and philological commentary, to shed light on two periods at the heart of Roman and European culture.

By the end of the course, students will not only have in-depth knowledge of the authors covered in lectures, but will also have developed a method of critical-exegesic analysis applicable to other texts and authors and other literary genres, enabling them to source and study Latin literary texts. They will also have developed an independent critical approach and will be able to contextualise Latin literary texts within a broader understanding of the role of literary phenomena in the arena of humanistic culture.

***COURSE CONTENT***

Module 1

The Augustan roots of imperial literature: texts and the historiographical question.

Module 2

Latin literature in the age of the Second Sophistic.

*Individual study*

First cycle degree students not yet having been awarded ECTS:

Module i:

– Cicero, *De oratore*: book II; or else *Brutus*.

*–* Petronius, *Satyricon*1-15; 53-78.

N.B.: In the supplementary course of Latin language held by prof. Mauri Petronius’s *Satyricon* will be subject of study.

Module 2

– Seneca, any tragedy.

– Lucretius, 500 consecutive verses from a book chosen by the student.

– Cicero: an oration chosen by the student.

***READING LIST***

The texts which will be analysed during the course and the corresponding bibliographical materials will be made available throughout the lectures.

The texts to be analysed will be extrapolated from the main critical editions (Oxford Classical Texts, Bibliotheca Teubneriana, Belles Lettres, ecc.).

Students may choose any edition for the texts which they will have to prepare autonomously can be read in any edition.

For Master's degree students who have already acquired 12 ECTS credits and want to acquire 6 more:

– Horace, *Epistles* (books I and II) and *Ars poetica*: a choice of at least 500 total verses in consecutive blocks.

– Livy, one book.

– Apuleius, *Metamorphoses: Cupid and Psyche* (4.28-6.24).

***TEACHING METHOD***

Frontal lectures with integrative courses (reading of texts for the general part by Prof. Perelli; metrics class exercises). External speakers will also participate in the classes.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Oral exams. Students will be assessed on their knowledge and skills by means of an oral exam of appropriate duration. Specifically, they will be assessed on: the accuracy of the content conveyed, their ability to present information clearly and synthesize information, their use of specialist language, their ability to produce relevant responses, and their ability to reflect critically on the data and concepts acquired.

*Part I: language*

Throughout the exam candidates shall prove their ability to:

– read metrically Virgil’s, Seneca the younger (iambic trimeter) and Lucretius’s texts;

– translate Virgil’s, Lucretius’s, Seneca the younger, Cicero’s, Petroniustexts. Candidates will also have to recognise the phonetic and morpho-syntactic aspects, the lexical ones, the rhetorical and stylistic ones, and the cultural context.

*Part II: monographic course*

Making use of the lecture notes and of the didactic materials and texts posted by the Professor on his webpage, candidates shall prove their ability to translate the Latin texts examined during the lectures, and to comment upon them, ri-elaborating the Professor’s explanations.

Each part will be assessed with a mark out of thirty, and the final mark will be the resulting average of the three partial marks.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

*Notes*

Humanities first cycle degree students will be awarded the first 12 ECTS only if they attend the course in its entirety (attendance and active participation during the lectures of the first and second module); the second 6 ECTS will be awarded through the attendance of a module chosen by the student during one of the following years.

Together with showing an adequate language preparation, students shall also prove they know prosody and metrics (hexameter and pentameter).

Students do not need to register online for the first part of the examination, they may go to the Latin Literature examination session after having informed the lecturer by email.Viceversa, students who need to complete the examination (by sitting part two) must register online as the lecturer will not be abe to upload the students’ final mark if they are not officially registered for the examination.

*Prerequisites*

In order to attend the Latin Literature course students must have good basic knowledge of Latin morphosyntax as well as the main topics of Latin literature.

*Office hours*

Prof. Luigi Galasso meets students at the beginning of lectures, on Tuesdays from 14,30 to 16,30 at the Institute of Papyrology and Classical Philology (Gregorianum building, I floor).

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.