

AP[®] Latin Vergil Course, Spring 2011

Course Goals and Expectations

The AP Latin Vergil Course follows the course of study provided by the College Board in the AP[®] *Latin Course Description*. In accordance with these requirements, students will do the following:

1. Read and translate as literally as possible from Latin into English the required Latin passages from Vergil's *Aeneid*.
2. Analyze and interpret the required Latin passages in essays that show a firm grasp of the Latin, as well as an understanding of metrical and stylistic elements.
3. Read Latin passages at sight to prepare for the multiple-choice section of the AP Latin: Vergil Exam.
4. In addition to reading the required passages in Latin, read the entire *Aeneid* in English translation. Students will discuss, analyze, and interpret the *Aeneid* as a whole in class discussions and in written critical essays.
5. Study the historical, social, cultural, and political context in which Vergil wrote the *Aeneid*.
6. Review Latin grammar in the course of the readings and learn to recognize poetic exceptions and special uses.

AP Vergil Exam Format:

I. Multiple Choice (40% of total grade: 50 questions, 60 minutes)

- 4 passages: 3 sight passages, at least 1 poetry and at least 1 prose, plus 1 syllabus-based passage from Vergil
- Questions on the Vergil passage tests knowledge of grammar and syntax, reference, context, meter, and figures of speech as well as background knowledge
- The greater the experience with close reading at sight, the better students' performance will be on this section. Unusual words are glossed. Significant long vowels are marked (e.g., ablative singular of 1st declension) in prose passages. Scansion of dactylic hexameter will be tested.
- Breakdown of multiple-choice questions includes:
 - 20-30% (10-15 questions): grammar and lexical questions
 - 35-45% (17-23 questions): translation or interpretation of a phrase or sentence
 - 2-5% (1-3 questions): metrics (i.e., scansion of dactylic hexameter)
 - 20-30% (10-15 questions): identification of allusions or references, recognition of words understood but unexpressed, explication of inferences to be drawn
 - 2-5% (1-3 questions): background questions on Vergil passage

II. Free-Response (60% of total grade: 15 minute reading period followed by 1 hour 45 minutes of testing time)

Question V1: a 10-minute translation (4-10 lines in length)

Question V2: a 10-minute translation (4-10 lines in length)

Question V3: a 45-minute long essay

Question V4: a 20-minute short essay

Question V5: a 20-minute short essay based on parts of the *Aeneid* read in English and, when appropriate, the selections read in Latin

Materials

Boyd, Barbara, ed. *Vergil's Aeneid: Selections from Books 1, 2, 4, 6, 10, and 12*. Wauconda, IL: Bolchazy-Carducci, 2001.

Mandelbaum, Allen, tr. *The Aeneid of Vergil*. New York: Bantam Classics, 1981.

Summer 2010 Assignments for AP Latin

1. Read entire *Aeneid* in translation and keep a journal with your reaction to the text and questions. Pay attention to broad themes, characters, and general plot. While we read 1,856 lines in Latin for the AP course, you will need to know what happens in the *Aeneid* as a whole (~10,000 lines total). The last free-response question asks about characters and events that are found outside the portions of the text we read in Latin. **You will need to turn in your reading journals to me by the first day of school (Tuesday, August 25th). This will count as a quiz grade.**

2. Re-read the following passages in Latin (at least once; the more times, the better):

- a. *Aeneid* 1.1-11, 305-417
- b. *Aeneid* 4.1-30, 160-197

Also, it can only help you to read more lines on the syllabus before the class actually starts. The following lines constitute the required reading list from the AP[®] *Latin Course Description* (lines from Vergil's *Aeneid* to be translated literally from Latin into English):

Book 1, lines 1-519

Book 2, lines 1-56, 199-297, 469-566, 735-804

Book 4, lines 1-448, 642-705

Book 6, lines 1-211, 450-476, 847-901

Book 10, lines 420-509

Book 12, lines 791-842, 887-952

3. Familiarize yourself with the AP[®] *Latin Course Description* at

<http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/public/repository/ap-latin-course-description.pdf>.

4. If you have not already picked up a copy of the course texts and folder of materials, contact me at mmash@wcpss.net and I will make arrangements to get these items to you.

Bona Fortuna and happy reading! I look forward to working with you next year.

Thanks,
Dr. Mash