

# Latin Course

**Prof. Andrea M. Gáldy**

(Fairfield University Florence Campus)

This course intends to be both a refresher course for those already somewhat familiar with Latin language and grammar and a course suitable for beginners, should that be necessary. Therefore, part of the course will be set aside for an overview of key features of the Latin language while we shall spend the rest of the time translating Latin texts into English. The aim is to give the students ample opportunity to apply their knowledge of grammar. While some of the texts will have been chosen beforehand by the lecturer, a number of passages can be suggested by the students for the later sessions, so that the special research interests and needs of the students can be taken into account.

Latin has been used over the course of millennia by people of many mother tongues. Hence there are many forms of Latin and these often differ considerably from one another and from the classical Latin that one usually learns at school. While the grammatical features introduced and discussed during the course are those from classical times, the reading material used will range from Vulgate extracts over mediaeval drinking songs to sixteenth-century archival sources.

At the end of the course you shall have a reasonable understanding of how Latin works. You should be in a position to translate text with the help of a dictionary at least as far as to understand which passages might be of interest for your research. And, I hope, there will be no panic whenever you come across a passage in Latin in future.

There will be 4 sessions per week of 1.5 hrs each, unless otherwise stated. Homework will be given at the end of each session and will be discussed at the beginning of the following session.

1. Assessment and review, 1
2. Declinations/ translation, 1.5
3. Conjugation/ translation, 1.5
4. Repetition declination and conjugation/translation, 1
5. Declinations/ translation, 1.5
6. Conjugation/ translation, 1.5
7. Repetition declination and conjugation/ translation, 1
8. Pronomina/ translation, 1
9. Prepositions/ translation, 1
10. Use of cases/ translation, 1.5
11. Repetition prepositions and use of cases/ translation, 1
12. Translation, 1.5
13. Ablativus absolutus/ translation, 1.5
14. AcI and NcI/ translation, 1.5
15. Repetition ablativus absolutus and AcI and NcI/ translation, 1
16. Review/ translation, 1

Total of 20 hrs

## Palaeography and Diplomatics Course

**Prof. Antonella Ghignoli**

(Università degli studi di Firenze)

This course has a twofold aim: first, is designed to introduce participants to the history of writing in the Latin West from Roman Antiquity to the Renaissance and to the history of documentation in Europe from the Middle Ages to the Renaissance. Second, it aims to familiarize students with the basics of Latin Paleography and Diplomatics and with their use as critical tools. To this purpose, most of the work will be focused on deciphering, analysing, dating and interpreting scripts and documents (both in Latin and in Italian vernacular) chosen from among the most representative typologies of sources (ca. 1200 -1600).

Photographic reproductions of scripts and documents will be shown on each meeting (including lessons 1-3, which will focus on general, introductory topics). Lessons 4-8 will be devoted to seminar-style discussions: a single text, written records or significant excerpts of a source will be transcribed (in the so-called diplomatic transcription), dated and commented on. Participants will receive reproductions of source materials both in jpg files and in photocopy.

### **Books:**

1. Bernhard Bischoff, *Latin palaeography. Antiquity and the Middle Ages*, translated by Daibhi O Croinin and David Ganz, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 1990 (Orig. Tit. *Paläographie des römischen Altertums und des abendländischen Mittelalters*).
2. O. Guyotjeannin, J. Pycke er B.-M. Tock, *Diplomatique médiévale*, Turnhout, Brepols, 2006 (Third revised and enlarged edition).

### **Recommended:**

1. M. B. Parkes, *Pause and Effect. An Introduction to the History of Punctuation in the West*, Scolar Press, 1992
2. *Charters and the Use of the Written Word in Medieval Society*, edited by Karl Heidecker, Turnhout, Brepols, 2000.
3. L. E. Boyle O.P., *Diplomatics*, in *Medieval Studies: An Introduction*, edited by J. M. Powell, pp. 82-113, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., Syracuse, N.Y., 1992.

**Web resources:**

1. F. Steffens, *Paléographie latine*, Trèves, Paris, 1910:  
<http://www.archivi.beniculturali.it/Biblioteca/indexSteffens.html>
2. *Le discipline editoriali: paleografia, diplomatica, codicologia*, ed. A. Ghignoli, in «RetiMedievali–Repertorio»:  
<http://www.rm.unina.it/repertorio/paleogra.html>
3. *Repertorio critico di risorse digitali per gli studi di storia della scrittura latina e della produzione manoscritta nel Medioevo*, ed. G. De Angelis, in «Scrineum-Strumenti»: <http://scrineum.unipv.it/repertorio/>

## Course schedule

24 hours = 8 lessons

**Lesson 1**

What is Latin Palaeography? What is Diplomatics?

Definitions and basic knowledge of two *historische Hilfswissenschaften*.

**Lesson 2**

Latin Palaeography. From Antiquity to Precarolingian Europe: an outline of the most significant scripts. Carolingian script: the basic handwriting of a ‘united’ Europe and of the ‘future’.

Diplomatics: Charters and privileges in early medieval Italy and Europe (ca. 700 -1200).

**Lesson 3**

Latin Paleography: *Textualis* and *antiqua*; *cancelleresca* script and *mercantesca*.

Diplomatics: the “documentary revolution” in the period of the Italian *communes* (1200-1300); the role of *register* in ‘European’ chanceries (ca. 1200-1400), the official letters of the Italian states and the diplomacy of European monarchies (1300-1500).

**Lesson 4** (in seminar-style)

*Statuti* of an Italian ‘commune’ [*Textualis*, Latin; XIII century].

**Lesson 5** (in seminar-style)

*Provvisiones* of the florentine *commune* (or some *chartae* of a notarial register of *imbreviaturae*) [*cancelleresca*, Latin; XIV century].

**Lesson 6** (in seminar-style)

Some *chartae* of a literary manuscript [*antiqua*, Latin; XV century].

**Lesson 7** (in seminar-style)

A letter by a merchant (or by an artist) [*mercantesca*, Italian vernacular]; a letter by an agent of an Italian *Signoria* (a diplomacy letter) [cursive hand, Italian vernacular; all documents dating from ca.1300-1500].

**Lesson 8** (in seminar-style)

A papal *breve* [humanistic cursive hand, XV-XVI century].

## **Philology Course**

**Prof. David Marsh**

(Rutgers University)

The purpose of the course is to familiarize students with the tradition of classical scholarship as it evolved from the ancient Greeks to the twenty-first century. The rebirth of philology in the Italian Renaissance will receive particular emphasis, highlighting the past contributions and present resources of Florence. In tracing the development of *Altertumswissenschaft* (the comprehensive science of antiquity) from Scaliger to Wolf, we shall discuss specialized disciplines like archeology, biblical criticism, codicology, comparative philology, and epigraphy, and also address more mundane topics such as pedagogy, textbooks, and the social prestige of classical learning. Students will be introduced to recent and ongoing projects in Renaissance culture from Kristeller's *Iter Italicum* and *Catalogus Translationum et Commentariorum* to the I Tatti Renaissance Library.

1. Western texts and classical antiquity: from Homer to Alexandria.
2. The medieval tradition: monks, schools, and libraries.
3. Petrarch and Boccaccio: the search for texts and the study of history.
4. Leonardo Bruni and Poggio Bracciolini: Greek translations, Latin history, and humanist script.
5. Lorenzo Valla and Giannozzo Manetti: historical and biblical criticism.
6. Leon Battista Alberti: art, architecture, and archaeology; the first grammar of Italian.
7. Poliziano, printing, and emerging critical method.
8. Beyond the Alps: France, Germany, and Erasmus.
9. Printing and censorship in an age of religious turmoil.
10. The emergence of *Altertumswissenschaft* from Scaliger to Wolf.

### **Bibliography:**

R. Pfeiffer, *History of Classical Scholarship*, 2 vols. (Oxford, 1968-1974).

L. D. Reynolds and N. G. Wilson, *Scribes and Scholars* (Oxford, 1991).

R. Sabbadini, *Le scoperte dei codici latini e greci ne' secoli XIV e XV* (Florence, 1967).

A. Grafton and L. Jardine, *From Humanism to the Humanities* (Harvard, 1987).

## **Codicology Course**

**Prof. David Rundle**

(University of Oxford)

The purpose of this course is twofold. First, the narrow practical skill that you will master is the ability to describe a manuscript and an early printed book to modern standards. More fundamentally, however, this course sets out to help you understand why mastering that skill is of intellectual use to you. It is based on the premise that every aspect of the book can be used as an entrée into its social and cultural context – in other words, through the minutiae of a book's construction, we can move to much larger questions about cultural and intellectual values in the societies we study. Manuscript scholars sometimes call this 'the new philology'; those who work in the print era prefer to describe it as 'the history of the book', but however it is titled, its intention is constant: to realise that texts are defined by the physical books in which they travel.

Assessment: there is an emphasis in this course on 'hands-on' learning, working with manuscripts and incunabula (fifteenth-century printed books) *in situ*. The end-point is that you will be able to produce two pieces of work: (i) a technical description of a manuscript or early printed book, and (ii) a short essay, explaining the significance of your findings from researching specific manuscripts and printed books.

Session I: History of Codicology and of Cataloguing Manuscripts and Incunabula.

Session II: Styles of Manuscript Cataloguing.

Session III: Manuscripts – the materials.

Session IV: Manuscripts – the mise-en-page (1).

Session V: Manuscripts – the mise-en-page (2).

Session VI: The Fortunes of Manuscripts (1).

Session VII: The Fortunes of Manuscripts (2).

Session VIII: The Arrival of Print.

Session IX: Recent Incunabula Catalogues.

Session X: The Interplay between Manuscripts and Print.

**Basic Reading:**

A. Derolez, *Codicologie des manuscrits en écriture humanistique sur parchemin*, 2 vols (Turnhout, 1984).

E. Eisenstein, *The Printing Revolution in Early Modern Europe*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Cambridge, 2005).

D. F. McKenzie, *Bibliography and the Sociology of Texts* (Cambridge, 1999).

D. McKitterick, *Print, Manuscript and the Search for Order, 1450 – 1830* (Cambridge, 2003).

A. Petrucci, *La descrizione del manoscritto: storia, problemi, modelli*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Roma, 2001).

S. Rizzo, *Il lessico filologico degli umanisti* (Roma, 1973).

Also very useful is the on-line Vocabulaire codicologique:

<http://vocabulaire.irht.cnrs.fr/pages/vocabl.htm>