

# FRESHMAN COURSES (FALL 2024)

## **Elementary Latin (LATN 101):** ([william.farris@christendom.edu](mailto:william.farris@christendom.edu))

An introduction to the grammar, syntax, and lexicon of Latin, this class is intended for absolute beginners, i.e., students who have never previously studied Latin. *All entering freshmen who have previously studied Latin should contact Dr. Andrew Beer ([abeer@christendom.edu](mailto:abeer@christendom.edu)) in order to take the Latin placement test.*

## **Intensive Elementary Latin (LATN 103):** ([estrickland@christendom.edu](mailto:estrickland@christendom.edu))

An accelerated introduction to the grammar, syntax, and lexicon of Latin, this class is intended for (1) students who have studied Latin previously but not to the extent necessary to enter LATN 199 (see below); and (2) students who have not studied Latin previously, or studied only very little, but wish to progress rapidly through the elementary material. Students who successfully complete this course may proceed directly to LATN 201 in the following semester. *Interested students must have Dr. Beer's permission to enroll in this class ([abeer@christendom.edu](mailto:abeer@christendom.edu)).*

## **Freshman Transitional Latin (LATN 199):** ([abeer@christendom.edu](mailto:abeer@christendom.edu))

An accelerated review of Latin grammar coupled with a course of readings in Latin literature, this class is intended for students who have had at least two years of high school Latin. The primary goal is to achieve the same level of fluency as achieved through LATN 201. Successful completion of the course will qualify students to pass directly into LATN 202. LATN 199 is the equivalent of LATN 201 for freshmen. *Entering freshmen should not enroll in LATN 201. To qualify for LATN 199, contact Dr. Andrew Beer ([abeer@christendom.edu](mailto:abeer@christendom.edu)) to take the Latin placement test.*

## **Patristic Latin: St. Leo the Great (LATN/THEO 421):** ([estrickland@christendom.edu](mailto:estrickland@christendom.edu))

Students will read selected homilies from the *Tractatus* of St. Leo the Great. These homilies are a window onto the interaction of bishop and faithful in late antiquity, the intersection of liturgical life and truths of the Faith, and successive reflections of St. Leo on the Bishop of Rome's *sollicitudo omnium ecclesiarum*. This course cross-lists as THEO 421 and is open to all students with sufficient Latin fluency to read extended prose from a critical edition and evaluate its historical and theological significance.

## **Roman Comedy: Plautus's *Menaechmi*** ([abeer@christendom.edu](mailto:abeer@christendom.edu))

We will carefully read Plautus's masterpiece *Menaechmi*—a tale of mistaken identity between two brothers, which was the inspiration of Shakespeare's *The Comedy of Errors*. The course will offer copious opportunity to savor the richness (*abundantia*) of Plautus's Latin style, while acquiring a larger working vocabulary of everyday Latin words, and learning about the history and conventions of Roman stagecraft. We will also attempt to perform scenes from the play, in Latin, of course! The prerequisite is successful completion of LATN 202 (or a higher level of Latin).

## **Elementary Greek I (GREK 301):** Dr. Andrew Beer ([abeer@christendom.edu](mailto:abeer@christendom.edu))

Study Ancient Greek, the original liberal art, and discover why Samuel Johnson said, "Greek ... is like lace: Every man gets as much of it as he can." Apart from being perhaps the greatest language ever invented and the ultimate source from which derive virtually all forms of literature and learning studied at the College, Greek is also a lot of fun. We will use a textbook that presents the story of a family living on a small farm outside of Athens during the months leading up to the outbreak of the Peloponnesian War. By the second semester, you will be able to read the Greek New Testament and classical authors, like Plato, Solon, and Herodotus. **The course is open to all students.**

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The Church has ever held the literary evidences of [ancient] wisdom in the highest esteem. She values especially the Greek and Latin languages in which wisdom itself is cloaked, as it were, in a vesture of gold. She has likewise welcomed the use of other venerable languages, which flourished in the East. For these too have had no little influence on the progress of humanity and civilization. By their use in sacred liturgies and in versions of Holy Scripture, they have remained in force in certain regions even to the present day, bearing constant witness to the living voice of antiquity.

—Pope St. John XXIII

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