LATIN, MINOR

Requirements for a minor may be completed at any campus location offering the specified courses for the minor. Students may not change from a campus that offers their major to a campus that does not offer their major for the purpose of completing a minor.

Program Description

The Latin minor emphasizes the development of skills in the linguistic and literary aspects of the Latin language. Through 18 credits of coursework, including 6 at the 400-level, students develop:

- mastery of the grammatical structures essential to the ability to read Latin;
- a vocabulary adequate to the sight recognition of a large number of Latin vocabulary items; and
- a thorough understanding of the formal system of word inflection and derivation which forms the grammatical core of the language.

Once students have completed the basic 12 credits in LATIN 1, LATIN 2, and LATIN 3, they have the opportunity to pursue their studies in a wide variety of 400-level courses, which include prose authors such as historians, poets who wrote in epic and elegiac styles, playwrights, and other literary stylists who round out the vast body of Latin literature. In addition, 400-level courses are available on such topics as Latin prose composition, in which students learn to write Latin, and Latin linguistic history. The minor is appropriate for a wide number of majors, including history, medieval studies, archaeology, medicine, philosophy, and law.

What is Latin?

Latin is the language formerly spoken throughout the Roman empire and is the language of early art, literature, and political thought. Latin is also the mother of the modern romance languages, such as French, Spanish, Portuguese, and Italian. Knowledge of Latin can be a great advantage to students interested in graduate study in Ancient History, Classics, Archaeology, Linguistics, Medieval Studies, Comparative Literature, and other fields.

You Might Like This Program If...

- You’re looking to supplement your major with a language that can greatly improve your vocabulary and grammar.
- You want to develop a mastery of the grammatical structures essential to the ability to read Latin.
- You hope to improve your skill of formulating persuasive and clear messages.

Program Requirements

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Requirements for the Minor

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the minor, as specified by Senate Policy 59-10 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/59-00-minors-and-certificates/#59-10).

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