

Latin

Introduction

AS and A2 Latin will appeal to candidates who have enjoyed Latin language and literature at GCSE and look forward to practising harder translation and to reading, in the original, verse and prose set texts by such world-class authors as Ovid, Virgil, Catullus, Cicero, Tacitus and Livy.

AS Outline

AS consists of two modules, both tested by examination:

- L1: Latin Language (Unprepared Prose Translation, with Defined Vocabulary list supplied)
- L2: Latin Verse and Prose Literature.

A2 Outline

A2 consists of two further modules, again tested by examination:

- L3: Verse set texts and Unprepared Verse Translation and Comprehension
- L4: Prose set texts and Unprepared Prose Translation and Comprehension.

Assessment

Each of the two modules at both AS and A2 is assessed by examination and is marked out of 100, making a total of 200 at AS and 400 at A2. A percentage is then arrived at (dividing marks by 2 at AS, and by 4 at A2) and grades awarded according to the overall percentage achieved, as follows: A = 80%+, B=70%+, C=60%+, D=50%+, E=40%+, below 40% = U. Candidates at A2 level will be awarded A* if they achieve 90%+ in their A2 modules, whatever their results at AS. There is no coursework involved.

Career Progression

Advanced Level Latin is desirable for a degree in Classics and can prove a great asset when studying for degrees in History, English, Philosophy, Modern Foreign Languages and Law. Classics graduates move on to challenging and interesting careers in many fields, including teaching, accountancy, archaeology, the legal profession and politics. One notable example is Boris Johnson, who read Classics at Oxford and, following a career in journalism, is currently Mayor of London!

Complimentary subjects

Latin complements Classical Civilisation, Classical Greek, English, Drama, Modern Foreign Languages and History and, subject to the constraints of timetabling, is often enjoyed by scientists, mathematicians and musicians as well.

Entry Requirements

Candidates will need to have at least a 'B' grade in GCSE Latin. They will have a liking for Latin grammar and syntax and demonstrate a strong interest in translating from Latin to English and in the study of literature.