

## Latin Linguistics: Evolution and Variation (A005723)

**Course size** *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

**Credits 5.0** **Study time 150 h**

**Course offerings in academic year 2026-2027**

A (semester 1) Dutch Gent

**Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027**

|                       |      |                    |
|-----------------------|------|--------------------|
| Van Acker, Marieke    | LW06 | staff member       |
| Galdi, Giovanbattista | LW06 | lecturer-in-charge |

**Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027**

|                                                                                                     | crdts | offering |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|----------|
| <a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Latin)</a>          | 5     | A        |
| <a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Latin)</a>        | 5     | A        |
| <a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Latin)</a>         | 5     | A        |
| <a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Latin - Greek)</a>          | 5     | A        |
| <a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Latin - Italian)</a>        | 5     | A        |
| <a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Latin - Spanish)</a>        | 5     | A        |
| <a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Latin - Swedish)</a>        | 5     | A        |
| <a href="#">Exchange Programme Linguistics and Literature</a>                                       | 5     | A        |
| <a href="#">Linking Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Latin)</a>     | 5     | A        |
| <a href="#">Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Latin)</a> | 5     | A        |

**Teaching languages**

Dutch

**Keywords**

Vulgar and Late Latin, language change, language variation, birth of Romance

**Position of the course**

The course gives an overview of the characteristics of so-called Vulgar and Late Latin and of their further development into Romance

**Contents**

The focus of this course is on a theoretical introduction on so-called Vulgar and Late Latin: birth and development of the research field, relation between language variation and language evolution, definition of Vulgar Latin, main characteristics as compared to Classical Latin, sources, significance for the development of language. The theory will be integrated and completed with a practical section, i.e. the in-class reading and discussion of selected texts from the imperial period and early Middle Ages

**Initial competences**

Good command of Classical Latin. The course builds on the competences acquired in Latin Linguistics I.

**Final competences**

- 1 To understand, contextualize and provide a linguistic commentary on Latin non-classical texts
- 2 To distinguish the main features of so called Vulgar Latin
- 3 To have insight in the chronology of Latin and Vulgar Latin
- 4 To explain the relation between Classical and non-standard Latin
- 5 To distinguish the similarities and differences between the pre-classical and the late language

- 6 To understand the most relevant diachronic changes taking place in the development of Latin towards the Romance languages (focus on phonology and morphology)
- 7 To have an overview of all sources written in non-classical Latin (inscriptions, bible translations, itineraria etc.)
- 8 To indicate and explain the main phonological changes taking place in the (Proto-)Romance vocalic system.
- 9 To translate and understand the statements of ancient Latin grammarians
- 10 To be able to write an essay over a research problem concerning Latin linguistics

#### **Conditions for credit contract**

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

#### **Conditions for exam contract**

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

#### **Teaching methods**

Lecture

#### **Extra information on the teaching methods**

- Lecture with in-class exercises
- Preparation of a short essay. This course assumes the responsible use of generative artificial intelligence (GAI). During the lessons, what this means will be explained
- No lecture recordings are provided for this course (interactive teaching format)

#### **Study material**

Type: Syllabus

Name: Syllabus

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : Dutch

Available on Ufora : Yes

Type: Slides

Name: Slides

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : Dutch

#### **References**

Are provided on a weekly basis (within the ppt. files)

#### **Course content-related study coaching**

Office hours. Can be reached through Ufora and e-mail.

#### **Assessment moments**

end-of-term and continuous assessment

#### **Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period**

Oral assessment

#### **Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period**

Oral assessment

#### **Examination methods in case of permanent assessment**

Participation, Assignment

#### **Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment**

examination during the second examination period is not possible

#### **Extra information on the examination methods**

Periodical evaluation: oral examination

Non-Periodical evaluation: short essay, active participation in the lessons

#### **Calculation of the examination mark**

Periodical evaluation: 65 % (oral examination)

Non-periodical evaluation: 25 % (essay) + 10 % (active participation in the lessons)

Participation in both parts is compulsory.

#### **Facilities for Working Students**

1. Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance

2. Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year

3. Alternative time for feedback is possible

For more information concerning flexible learning, contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy