

GREEK I-III

SYLLABUS AND EXPECTATIONS

2016-2017

ΑαΒβΓΔδΕεΖζΗηΘθΙκκλΜμΝνΞξΟοΠπΡρΣσΤτΥυΦφΧχΨψΩω

“I would make them all learn English, and then I would let the clever ones learn Latin as an honor, and Greek as a treat.”

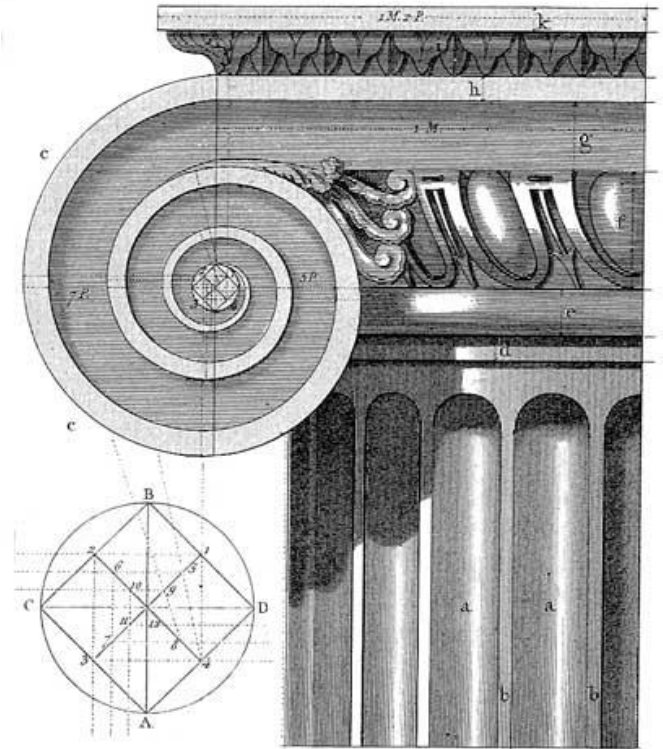
---Winston Churchill, *British orator and prime minister*

Greece was the birthplace of Western democracy, philosophy, architecture, medicine, history and science. It was the cradle of Western civilization! Used by the fierce Spartans and the civic-minded Athenians, the Greek language has left an everlasting mark on all languages in Europe and the Mediterranean. Not only did the language greatly influence Latin and the Romans but also supplied English with a great deal of vocabulary and technical language for the sciences. In Greek, the history and culture of the Athenians are explored while learning vocabulary and grammar. Indeed after taking this course, you will no longer be able to say – “It’s all Greek to me!”

I. CURRICULUM

The text that we are using is called Athenaze. It combines “the best features of traditional and modern methods ... [and] provides a unique course of instruction that allows students to read connected Greek narrative right from the beginning and guides them to the point where they can begin reading complete classical texts. Carefully designed to hold students' interest, the course begins in Book I with a fictional narrative about an Attic farmer's family placed in a precise historical context (432-431 B.C.). This narrative [is] interwoven with tales from mythology and the Persian Wars ...” (Oxford University Press). In addition to the text, we will explore how Greek has greatly influenced the English language and the nomenclature of all the sciences. We will also appreciate how varied and fascinating ancient Greek culture was, especially its pantheon of gods, and how their religion has directly shaped our culture, literature, art and architecture. Emphasis will also be put upon Greek derivatives in English and the reading(s) of Greek tragedy. We will also be doing the following activities this year:

- Greek Day at the UConn Hellenic Center on November 7
- Medusa Mythology Exam, whose theme this year is “The Rise and Fall of the Titans,” in November-December
- National Classical Etymology Exam in December
- National Greek Exam in February/March



II. EXPECTATIONS

At all times, the general atmosphere of the Greek classroom will consist of respect for yourself, your peers, and your teacher. Disrespect is not acceptable. Perhaps the greatest violation to this rule is dishonesty. The

consequences for cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty are outlined in the student handbook. They are serious and severe. Integrity and character are greatly valued in this class. A sense of humor, kindness, honesty, and maturity are the major elements of a student's character and are a major focus in letters of recommendation. Since this class has multi-levels, I plan on having students work both in groups and independently.

III. GRADING

There will be no major tests, except for the midterm and final exam.

Grading Policy:

70%: ~6-8 quizzes

30%: ~ short quizzes and written assignments

+/- participation and consciousness

IV. HONORS VS. STANDARD LEVEL

The following are my expectations for honors level work.

- Memorization will be greater. There will usually be no use of charts and others aids during quizzes or exams. If you have trouble remembering noun and verb endings, you should not be enrolled in Honors level.
- More work to do on a quiz (e.g., additional problems or lines to translate).
- Every student can expect at least 30 minutes of homework every night. Honors students should sometimes expect 45 minutes or more.
- In class participation should be higher, especially when reading at sight.
- More challenging grading system/rubric or set of requirements for papers, projects, and longer assignments.

V. PARTICIPATION AND ORGANIZATION

- Outside of the classroom, the most useful tool for learning and practicing the concepts that we cover in class is via *crabbylatin.com*. It has links to our Google classroom (*OPERA*), and amazing YouTube videos, and what we are currently studying. The links are continually being updated and I welcome any and all recommendations.
- Binder with dividers or two folders (i.e., four pockets). I will check this twice a quarter and will announce the week when I will check. The four sections should be: 1) homework 2) vocabulary, etymology, and mottoes/phrases 3) grammar 4) history and mythology
- I will be clear when cell phones can and can't be used during class. In a classroom setting, such distractions impede students from learning and me from teaching.

VI. COMMUNICATION

- It is extremely important to keep the lines of communication open throughout the year. If you are having problems or struggling, let me know immediately. I am often available before and after school if you want extra help. My daily schedule is posted online and my email address is: jim_crabb@whps.org. Since I don't have a life during the school year, I frequently check my email throughout the day and night. Email me questions or concerns at any time.
- Feel free to follow me on Instagram (@crabbylatin) and Twitter (@CrabbyLatin). These are purely for the purpose of education and entertainment. Rest assured, if you follow me, I will not follow you. On Twitter, I usually retweet current fascinating and interesting historical and archaeological news. On Instagram, I share more humorous images and the fun things that we are doing in class.



I have read and understood Mr. Crabb's classroom expectations for Greek.

HONORS CREDIT AGREEMENT SIGNATURES REQUIRED

Nomen: _____ Grade Level: _____

I have read and agree to the above expectations of being a Greek honors student.

Student's signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

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