



**Syllabus**  
**Ecclesiastical Latin I (LANG121A)**  
**3 Academic Credits**

**Instructor**

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**Course Description**

The chief aim of this course is to give the student, within one year of study, the ability to read ecclesiastical Latin. The Collins textbook includes the Latin of *Jerome's Bible*, of canon law, of the liturgy and papal bulls, of scholastic philosophers, and of the *Ambrosian hymns*, providing a survey of texts from the fourth century through the Middle Ages.

**Value of Course**

A working knowledge of Ecclesiastical Latin has relevance for all disciplines of theology, whether theoretical or practical. From a pastoral and clerical perspective, it will provide students with the ability to begin to read and to interpret the patristic and canon law texts and its translations, to engage the critical discussions featured in secondary literature (commentaries, dictionaries, etc.), and to access the lexical and semantical data. It will equip students personally and professionally to be independent and responsible Christian interpreters of the related ecclesiastical texts, whether for preaching, teaching, counseling, or writing. Students will gain the knowledge to be able to begin to evaluate ancient and modern interpretations.

**Course Objectives**

At the end of the course, students should possess this knowledge and be able to perform these tasks:

1. To describe the history and grammar/syntax of Ecclesiastical Latin.
2. To identify the most important terms and to explain the reason people interpret the patristic and ecclesiastical texts in diverse ways.
3. To describe important aspects of Latin texts and of translations of these books.
4. To responsibly use tools/resources of Latin translation process for study and research.

Grades will be based upon translation projects (see schedule below).

**Textbook**

John F. Collins. *A Primer of Ecclesiastical Latin*. Washington, D.C.: Catholic University of America, 1988. Price for paperback range from \$20-\$25: <https://www.amazon.com/Primer-Ecclesiastical-Latin-John-Collins/dp/0813206677>.

## Recommended Supplemental Resources

Leo F. Stelten. *Dictionary of Ecclesiastical Latin*. Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale House, 1995. Price: range from \$15 to \$26 for used to hardcover: <https://tinyurl.com/y6wdhbfw>.

H. P. V. Nunn. *An Introduction to Ecclesiastical Latin*. London: Cambridge University Press, 1922; repr., Bibliothèque Saint Lebere, 2008:  
[http://www.liberius.net/livres/An\\_introduction\\_to\\_ecclesiastical\\_latin\\_000000433.pdf](http://www.liberius.net/livres/An_introduction_to_ecclesiastical_latin_000000433.pdf)

Oscar Cameron Gruner, tran. *A Canon of Medicine of Avicenna*. New York: AMS, 1973:  
<https://archive.org/details/CanonOfMedicine/mode/2up>.

## Grading Policy

Diploma, bachelor, master programs grading chart:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Percent Points</u>	<u>Awarded/Credit</u>
A	95-100	4.0 Exceptional
A-	90-94	3.7 Excellent
B+	86-89	3.3 Very Good
B	83-85	3.0 Good
B-	80-82	2.7 Very Acceptable
C+	76-79	2.3 Acceptable
C	73-75	2.0 Satisfactory
C-	70-72	1.7 Adequate
D+	66-69	1.3 Inadequate
D	63-65	1.0 Deficient
D-	60-62	.7 Poor
F	0-59	0 Failing
I	Incomplete	0
W	Withdrawn	0
A	Audit	0

## Prerequisites

A working knowledge of reading, listening, and writing English is important. For non-native English learners, special resources have been provided to help you progress through this study, including alternative texts, translations, etc. See the section “Student Responsibilities” below for additional requirements, including use of the institutional style guide.

## Learning Format (Delivery)

This 8-module course has two components: 1) an online archived portion that includes elements to explain and to reinforce the course’s learning objectives and 2) interactive learning portions (assignments) in which students engage with the instructor via assignments. Consultations with the instructors are welcomed and occur by appointment. For the main instructional modules,

students will log into a secure portal using an Internet-based learning management system (LMS) Canvas, during which time they will read the written course materials. Supplemental material will be available on Canvas for students to access and view at their own pace over the course of their study. Links to external resources will be available in this supplemental section, including information needed to access standard reference tools.

## **Student Responsibilities**

Students are expected to complete assignments under the oversight of their instructor or approved proctor and conditions by the specified deadline. Make-up assignments will not be given unless students provide in writing prior to the assignment date a legitimate reason for their inability to complete assignments on time (unless there is a documented illness). **Plagiarism of any kind (intentional and unintentional) will not be tolerated in assignments, including quizzes and papers.**

## **Schedule**

The schedule below lists the subject, textbook readings, and assignments on module basis.

### **Weeks 1-12**

#### **Module 1: Lesson 1**

##### *Main Topics:*

##### A. Pronunciation:

1. All consonants
2. Vowels and diphthongs
3. A consonant in front of e or i.

##### B. First Declension Nouns:

1. Endings, including gender and number
2. Functions of cases

##### C. Other: Word order irrelevant and further pronunciation irregularities.

*Assignment:* All exercises on page 12.

#### **Module 2: Lessons 2, 3**

##### *Main Topics:*

##### A. Review

B. Second Declension:

1. Variations
2. Neuter nouns

C. Copulative verbs, transitive verbs: There are personal pronouns, but they are seldom used.

D. Types of sentences:

1. Dative of possession

*Assignment:* At this point, I will send a short passage of medieval to start working on.

**Module 3: Lesson 4**

A. Adjectives

B. Two broad types:

1. First and second Declension
2. Special Declension

*Assignment:* Second reading to be determined.

**Module 4: Lessons 5, 6**

*Main Topics:*

A. Introduction to present tense first conjugation

B. Introduction to second, third, and fourth conjugation and restate conjugational similarities

At this point, all work for the twelve weeks should be completed.

*Assignment:* At this point, another translation passage will be assigned.

**Weeks 13-24**

**Module 5: Lessons 7, 8, 9**

*Main Topics:* This module will cover present passive, imperfect (active and passive), and future (active and passive) verbs in all conjugations. Before you start these lessons, you will have a lesson on the transition between third conjugation *io* and the fourth conjugation in general. This might take two weeks.

You will also cover Avicenna's work and how Latin transferred into the twentieth century. Translation passages vary in complexity.

*Assignment:* All exercises on pages 62-63, 72-73, 80-81.

### **Module 6: Lesson 10**

*Main Topics:* Perfect indicative active and relative clause introduction, when to use the indicative, when to use the subjunctive: May, might, and doing it.

*Assignment:* All exercises on pages 87-88.

### **Module 7: Lessons 11 and 12**

*Main Topics:* Vocabulary review and conclusion of conjugated (regular) verbs. Lesson 12 is devoted to *possum*, *posse*, *potuī*, e + esse.

*Assignment:* All exercises on pages 93-94, 100-101.

### **Module 8: Lessons 13 and 14**

*Main Topics:* Review of all conjugations and introduction of third declension nouns.

*Assignment:* All exercises on pages 109, 117-118.

### **Institutional Statements**

This syllabus and all course materials developed by the adjunct instructors are protected by copyright law of Title 17 of the United States Code. The instructors reserve all rights to these materials and any reproduction, storage, or transmission of them except for use with this course and without his or her prior written permission is prohibited.

#### *Withdrawal and Refunds*

Students who find it necessary to withdraw from a course must notify the St. Anthony's Cathedral Liturgical House of Studies administrative office immediately via phone, mail, or e-mail. The official date of withdrawal will be the date St. Anthony's receives the request for withdrawal and it will be used in calculating any tuition refund.

#### *Tuition Refund Schedule\**

100% Withdrawal prior to the first session of a residential course or within five days from date of enrollment for an online course.

30% Withdrawal within the first 30 calendar days from the first session of a residential course or date of enrollment for an online course.

0% Withdrawal after 30 calendar days from the first session of a residential course or date of enrollment for an online course.

\*No refunds will be provided on registration fees or for those on discount/scholarship programs. Date of enrollment (date registration is received and processed) is used for calculating refunds for online and correspondence courses.