

August 2006

Welcome to Mr. Mackin's Latin 2 class!

I hope you enjoyed your summer break and are feeling ready to return to MAUHS. As a student enrolled in Latin 2, you will be advancing in something in which you've already experienced some success. Take a minute to remember that and encourage yourself! This semester, you will delve deeper into the Latin language, and you'll certainly notice more similarities and differences with English. I will continue to guide you, as you explore Latin with your classmates during class.

For our class, you will need a notebook or binder, choose which one you prefer. In the binder or notebook, you will do homework, class listening exercises, and take vocabulary and grammar notes. Some students like to organize their notebook or binder into these sections. I will not check your notebook itself for a grade; organize it as you see fit. I do record points for completed homework assignments, so label your work with page numbers, exercise numbers and date so that you can find it easily.

You will receive a textbook that you should keep covered with a book cover. The text, *Ecce Romani*, costs \$50.00, the workbook \$10.00. I will record the book number at the start of the semester. Care for it, and return it at the end of the semester. Do the same for the workbook you will receive. These, like the text, are for reference, and should not be written in. Work assigned from these two sources will be completed in your notebook/binder. We will also be using a reader, *Civis Romanus* with its grammar supplement, *Mentor*. Work from these will also be completed in your notebook/binder.

Grades are awarded as follows:

Homework represents 20% of your semester grade.

- * Homework is frequently assigned, and it is better to try an assignment (that is, write something down as an honest attempt) than to leave an exercise blank.
- * If you miss the due date for an assignment, it may be turned in the next day for partial credit, usually half. Make up work quickly; you are allowed one day to make up an assignment in the case of a day's absence. If the absence is longer, come ask, and we'll make a schedule. Make it your responsibility to show me made-up assignments.
- * Most assignments are to be done in your notebook. I will tell you if it's an assignment that I want turned in for grading.

Quizzes and tests represent 70% of your semester grade. This part includes oral and written quizzes, all tests, class participation and conversations.

- * Quizzes and tests should be made up as quickly as possible, according to the advice given above in the homework section.

Participation represents 10% of your semester grade.

- * This part includes oral practice conversations with a partner, written practice in class, listening drill participation and question and answer times with the teacher.

The final exam has 5 parts: culture, listening, reading, speaking, and writing. It counts 20% of the final grade, and the semester grade counts 80%.

I am at school most days until 4 pm. If you would like to see me for more explanation or to answer some questions, talk to me in advance so that we can find a mutually agreeable time. If your parents need to make contact, I receive telephone messages from the MAUHS switchboard (447-7511) and email messages at pmackin@svsu.org.

I am looking forward to a rewarding semester!