

AP Virgil Syllabus (2009-2010)

Mr. Walker – D118—663-4885 x11265—jmwalker@cps.k12.in.us

Personal home page: <http://www.vroma.org/~jwalker/>

Homework page: <http://www.vroma.org/~jwalker/homework.htm>

I. Objectives

To read, analyze, and discuss orally and in writing the literature of great Roman authors as a survey of Roman literature. To investigate the lives of Caesar, Pompey, Crassus, Cicero, Catullus, and other great Roman personalities of the late Republic in an effort to understand the political intrigue of the period and the purposes of the authors in creating this literature. To develop an appreciation of the Classical tradition through the study of the Latin language, Roman history, literature, and mythology. To achieve a school average of 3 or higher on the AP Latin Literature exam.

II. Student Responsibilities

- **Be Prepared:** Bring your textbook, a pen and a pencil, loose-leaf paper, and a three-ring binder.
- **Be On Time:** If you must come in late, sign in on the clipboard and try not to disrupt the class. Indicate whether you are tardy or have a pass on the sheet.
- **Be In Class:** Attendance is very important in a sequential class like Latin. When you are absent, you are missing practice that cannot be replaced or reproduced. See me to discuss extended absences for documented medical reasons.
- **Be a Productive Team Member:** I expect you as a student to:
 - ✓ accept responsibility (and consequences) for your actions.
 - ✓ ask questions whenever you do not understand something and get help when you need it.
 - ✓ treat everyone in our classroom with respect and courtesy.
 - ✓ remember that what comes easily to some is more difficult for others.
 - ✓ participate actively and positively throughout the entire period.
 - ✓ throw your gum in the trash when you enter the room.

- **Avoid Consequences:** If you choose to break school rules or ignore my expectations, I will choose from the following consequences:
 - ✓ give you a warning.
 - ✓ call home to discuss your behavior and possible solutions.
 - ✓ assign you a personal detention after school at my convenience.
 - ✓ refer you to the appropriate assistant principal.

III. Grades

A. Your grade is a combination of homework, class participation, group/ individual projects/ presentations, tests, and the six weeks assessment (SWA). Expect to have homework daily, 1-3 short tests per six weeks, 1 long test, and 1 SWA per six weeks. Homework is practice for tests; tests are practice for the SWA, etc. If you skip some of this practice, you make success harder to attain.

B. Each grade category is a weighted portion of the six weeks grade:

Homework Average	20%
Participation Average	10%
Test Average	49.5% (70%=3rd & 6th)
SWA Average	20.5% (0%=3rd & 6th)

1. Homework, worth 2 points, will be graded on completeness and will be corrected in class. **If you earn one point or less two days in a row, you will be assigned a one-hour detention after school in my room to be served within a week.** Absent students should turn in all work missed when they return in order to receive credit. Homework for each week is listed in the classroom and on-line (see contact info).
2. Mini-Tests range from 25-50 points. Tests, SWAs, and Presentation type activities are usually worth 100 points each.

C. To determine your grade, take the number of Homework points scored and divide by the number of possible Homework points then multiply by .20. Repeat this process for each category then add these numbers together. This will be your grade for the six weeks. You are responsible for recording your grades on the provided sheet and calculating your grade on your own. If your coaches need me to verify your scores, I will be happy to provide a printed grade report **24 hours after you hand me a written request**. Your parents can access your grades on-line. Graded assessments are usually posted within one week of due date, but some items take longer to grade.

D. The following grading scale will be used for the six weeks and final grades:

A+	97-100	A	93-96	A-	90-92
B+	87-89	B	83-86	B-	80-82
C+	77-79	C	73-76	C-	70-72
D+	67-69	D	63-66	D-	60-62
F	0-59				

Percentages will be rounded to the nearest whole number when determining grades.

E. Each six weeks is worth 26.5% of your final grade; the semester exam contributes the other 20.5%. Your semester average will be determined by applying the weights to each of these four averages and adding the results.

IV. Make-up Work: Homework that was due while absent should be turned in when you return. You will get credit for the homework that is due the day you return if you do it with the class. Smaller assessments should be made up during Zero Period as soon as possible. Larger assessments must be made up after school as soon as possible. You should try not to miss any assessments. If you are having problems getting your make-up work done, please talk to me. The deadline for doing make-up work is the last day of the six weeks.

V. Help: I believe that **all** of my students **can** be successful, and I will do my part to help you succeed, but you must work with me to make that happen. Don't be afraid to ask questions; if you won't ask in front of the class, ask me later. In fact, you are rewarded with extra points on tests for coming in on your own time to get the help that you need. I'll also let you earn these points by volunteering to help other students during Zero Period—see me for details!

AM: Please get help from me during Zero Period (7:00-7:20 M, T, Th, F).

PM: I'm usually here **a lot** after school. Try to ask a day in advance since my meeting schedule varies, but don't be afraid to just stop by and see if I'm in either. I'm really very approachable one on one so please ask for help.

E-Mail & Phone: Since I'm usually at school late, try calling here first (see contact info). If you can't reach me here, my home phone number is (219) 661-9154 (see contact info for e-mail address). Please use this information responsibly.

Tutors: I maintain a list of students who are willing to tutor other students in Latin. Please see me for a copy of this list.

VI. Miscellaneous

A. It is never too late to change your attitude, learn material, apologize, or ask for help. Please come in and get the extra help you need before you feel as if the problem is no longer fixable.

B. Information on the Crown Point Latin Curriculum is on-line at www.cps.k12.in.us/cphs/dept/foreign/latin.htm.

C. The Crown Point Latin Club is very active and is a great bargain at dues of \$10.00 (until Oct. 1). I encourage you to join and participate as much as possible. Check out our website at www.crownpoint.ijcl.org.

We have read this document and understand the information contained in it.

Date: _____

Student Signature

Parent Signature