

LATN 372

Latin 372-01 B

Course Syllabus – Latin Poetry: Horace's *Odes*

Fall 2001

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I. COURSE RATIONALE

Why read and study the Horace's Odes in the original Latin? Many good answers could be given to this question, but I will give those that I believe to be most important. Because (1) after 2,000 years he is still considered by many who read his work whether in Latin or translation to be one of the best poets of all time from any culture; (2) no translation can do full justice to the beauty of the original Latin; (3) it is impossible to appreciate properly the supreme artistry of this particular poet without becoming acquainted with some of the original meters used by Horace; (4) a study of Horace's Odes shows us that the Romans were not all soldiers, politicians and engineers, and that many of the foibles that we have today are reflected back to us from what we see in their poetry.

II. TEXTS

Harrison, J.A. *Horace in His Odes: Introduction, text, notes and vocabulary*. Focus Publishing,

A good classical Latin dictionary. (I recommend the *New College Latin & English Dictionary* by John C. Traupman.)

III. EXPECTATIONS

1. Read in Latin and translate the assigned poems of Horace.
2. Give a SHORT report on one of the Odes of Horace. For more details, see section VI. below.
3. Please attend every session of class. Be prepared to translate. Even if you are not prepared, come to class.

IV. EVALUATION

Your grade will be computed as follows:

- (1) Daily class participation – 30%;
- (2) 1 mid-term translation exam – 30%;
- (3) 1 brief oral report – 10 %;
- (4) 1 final translation exam – 30 %.

V. OFFICE HOURS

MTW 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. & 5:30 - 6:00 p.m.

R 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

F 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. & 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

VI. REPORT TOPICS

Each student is expected to give an oral report (with accompanying outline notes) on one of the poems which we do NOT translate from the selection in Harrison or another of Horace odes. You need to provide us with a translation of the poem (as well as the text,

if not from Harrison) and tell us what the poem means and why it is important, as well as why you like it (or not!)

VII. COURSE OUTLINE

WEEK 9

Monday, Oct. 22 Introduction
Wednesday, Oct. 24 Ode 1.1.11-22

WEEK 10

Monday, Oct. 29 Ode 1.1.23-36
Wednesday, Oct. 31 Poem 20 (=Odes 1.5)

WEEK 11

Monday, Nov. 5 Poem 9 (=Odes 1.9)
Wednesday, Nov. 7 Poem 10 (=Odes 1.10)

WEEK 12

Monday, Nov. 12 Poem 29 (=Odes 1.37)
Wednesday, Nov. 14 **Exam #1.**

WEEK 13

Monday, Nov. 19 Poem 18 (=Odes 2.7)
Wednesday, Nov. 21 Poem 23 (=Odes 3.26)

WEEK 14

Monday, Nov. 26 Poem 11 (=Odes 4.7)
Wednesday, Nov. 28 Poem 28 (=Odes 3.13)

WEEK 15

Monday, Dec. 3 Poem 17 (=Odes 3.21)
Wednesday, Dec. 5 Reports

FINALS' WEEK

Monday, Dec. 10 8:00 a.m.