

A-LEVEL LATIN: AIMING FOR GRADES A & A*

CODE 7298

ABOUT THIS COURSE

This NEW course will demonstrate how to guide your best students to achieve Grades A & A* in future OCR A-Level Latin examinations. Led by our highly respected and successful presenter Henry Cullen, the course will demonstrate teaching and learning ideas for both language and literature options which will stretch and challenge able students and develop their higher level skills. Using feedback from 2018's first year of examinations on the new specifications, the course will outline what is expected of high ability students and explore ways to build your teaching practice around this.

PROGRAMME

TIME

Grades A & A*: what do they involve?

10.00 – 10.45am

- Structure of the new specification A-Level Latin exams and what they require of the best students
- Feedback and grading analysis from the 2018 papers and what this tells us about the standards which top students are expected to meet
- Analysis of mark schemes – what are the examiners looking for?
- Grades A & A*: what are the differences between these?
- Key attributes of Grade A & A* students in the classroom
- Avoiding potential hazards: what can cost a top student their A grade?

Discussion: coffee break

10.45 – 11.05am

Teaching language: key challenges for Grade A/A* students

11.05 – 12.30pm

- Analysing the Unseen paper: where is an A/A* achieved or lost?
- Building vocabulary and developing skills for spotting cognate words
- Tackling the toughest sentences: developing the skills needed to unpick hard Latin
- Stretching top students with your choice of verse unseen passages and scansion questions
- Approaches for the Comprehension paper: preparing for different authors and question styles
- Using prose composition and grammatical analysis to stretch able students
- Revision tips to ensure top level students succeed in the exams

Lunch and informal discussion

12.30 – 1.30pm

Teaching literature: stretching and challenging able students

1.30 – 2.20pm

- Moving on from GCSE approaches – how to make able students into independent readers
- Using wider reading to prepare for and complement the set texts
- Deep examination of context – using who?/what?/when?/why? questions to push students
- Different approaches to discussing and writing about style
- What makes a strong A-Level commentary? How can we build up to this?
- Working up to full essay questions, and using them to stretch students

Discussion: afternoon tea

2.20 – 2.35pm

Literature exams: tactics for achieving the highest grades

2.35 – 3.15pm

- The shorter questions: what are the potential pitfalls?
- Focus on the 15-mark questions and essays: what does a grade A/A* candidate need to do?
- Varying commentary practice to stretch the most able
- Revision ideas to help students produce high grade essays
- Working to the standard: reviewing and marking specimen scripts

Plenary, discussion and depart

3.15 – 3.30pm

LOCATION/DATE

Online

Tuesday 10 November 2020

COURSE LEADER

Henry Cullen is Head of Classics at Colfe's School, London, and prior to that taught at Tonbridge School and Winchester College. He has experience of preparing students for A-Level, Pre-U, GCSE, and IGCSE examinations in Latin, Greek and Classical Civilisation.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- All teachers of A-Level Latin
- Heads of Classics

BENEFITS OF ATTENDING

- Focused on identifying the demands of Grades A & A* and providing materials to help teachers prepare students effectively
- A detailed look at the different demands of questions across the language and literature papers
- Mark schemes will be analysed to identify and clarify the requirements of the highest levels
- Sample answers at Grades A & A* will be discussed and marked
- Materials will be provided that will allow teachers to cover the content effectively in innovative and student-friendly ways that push the highest ability students