

CARPE DIEM
"Seize the day!"

For further information about studying Latin (or ancient Greek), consult any of these sources:

Committee for the Promotion of Latin:

Stephen Smith, Chair
Dept. of Classical
and Near Eastern Studies
9 Pleasant St. SE
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, MN 55455
E-mail: smith504@umn.edu

HOME PAGES:

American Classical League
<http://www.aclclassics.org/>

National Junior Classical League
<http://www.njcl.org/>

Classical Association of the Middle West and South
<http://www.camws.org/>

National Committee for Latin and Greek
<http://www.promotelatin.org/>

LATIN

**Try it--you'll
like it!**

*An invitation for
secondary school students*

Originally Prepared by the Committee for the
Promotion of Latin (1997)

Revised 2005 by the Department of Classics at
Monmouth College

This brochure may be freely copied
and distributed.

L A T I N

Try it--you'll like it!

Latin, the language spoken by the ancient Romans, used to be taught in secondary schools throughout the United States. Why was it so popular? Because teachers and parents knew that taking Latin would give students an academic edge. It would make them more sophisticated in using their own language. It would improve their study habits and help them do well in their other courses. It would develop their reading writing, and reasoning skills--keys to success both in school and in the job market

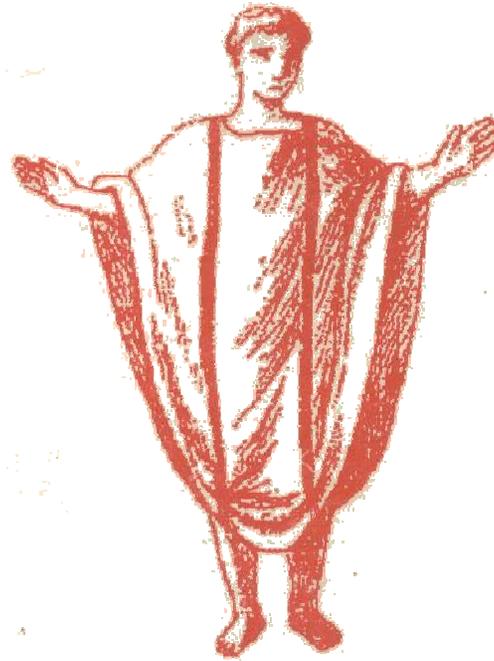
DATA FROM THE 2004 SCHOLASTIC APTITUDE TEST (SAT)

Average Verbal score for all students: 508

Average Verbal score for all who had studied

Latin:	674
French:	642
Hebrew:	630
German:	627
Spanish:	575

Beginning in the 1960's, many schools made the decision to cut Latin out of the curriculum, arguing that it was no longer relevant. More and more schools are now realizing that this was a mistake. In an effort to improve the quality of education, new programs in Latin are being introduced all over the country. They combine study of the Latin language with the study of the ancient world-- its literature, art history, philosophy, science, and religion.



If Latin is being taught at your school, don't miss your chance: sign up for the class! Be one of the lucky ones who have the privilege and the pleasure of learning Latin. You'll discover that Latin is not just useful but also a lot of fun.

PREAMBLE TO THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

English words derived from Latin are printed in boldface:

We the **People** of the **United States**, in **Order** to **form** a more **perfect Union**, **establish Justice**, **insure domestic Tranquility**, **provide** for the **common defense** **promote** the **general Welfare**, and **secure** the **Blessings** of **Liberty** to ourselves and our **Posterity**, do **ordain** and **establish** this **Constitution** for the **United States of America**.

As a Latin student, you may find yourself participating in Roman banquets, chariot races, or statewide Latin Bowls. If your school supports a chapter of the **Junior Classical League**, you may even have the opportunity to attend a national JCL convention.

Students at any level of Latin are eligible to take the annual **National Latin Exam**, for which the prizes are ribbons, certificates, medals, and college scholarships. Certain colleges and universities as well as the Classical Association of the Middle West and South offer scholarships for Latin students who plan to study a classical language (Latin or ancient Greek) in college.