

LatinPerDiem

Dr. David C. Noe

Lingua Latina Per Se Illustrata (LLPSI) – Unit II

Chapters X–XVIII (Familia Romana)

COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor: Dr. David C. Noe, LatinPerDiem

Course Format: Self-paced with video-on-demand + optional live support

Duration: Flexible (recommended 16-20 weeks, depending on pace)

Course Description

This Unit II course continues the immersive, inductive "natural method" of Hans H. Ørberg's *Lingua Latina per se Illustrata: Pars I – Familia Romana*. Students read continuous, authentic Latin prose about the Roman family and daily life while gradually acquiring vocabulary, morphology, and syntax primarily in context.

This unit bridges the fundamental concepts from Unit I into more complex aspects of Latin morphology and syntax, covering **Capitula X–XVIII** (9 chapters). By the end of this unit, students will read increasingly complex Latin with greater fluency, handling third-, fourth-, and fifth-declension nouns, comparatives, passive voice, relative clauses, and various cultural topics including animals and humans, the human body, military life, the calendar, education, weather, numbers, and letter-writing.

Learning Objectives

By the end of Unit II, students will be able to:

- Read and comprehend Chapters X–XVIII of *Familia Romana* with minimal or no translation aid.
- Recognize and actively use the new vocabulary and grammatical structures introduced in each chapter.
- Discuss Roman daily life, culture, and institutions reflected in the text.
- Complete the *Pensa* (exercises) and demonstrate mastery through chapter homework assignments, vocabulary quizzes, a midterm, and a comprehensive final exam.

Required & Supplementary Materials

- **Required Text:** Hans H. Ørberg, *Lingua Latina per se Illustrata: Pars I – Familia Romana* (full-color edition preferred).
- **Required Media:** Access to the **48 course videos** (provided via the LatinPerDiem platform).
- **Optional Supplements:** *A Companion to Familia Romana*, *Exercitia Latina I*, *Colloquia Personarum*, and/or vocabulary lists.
- **Personal Tools:** A notebook or digital tool for recording vocabulary variations and grammar notes.

Methodology & Instructional Pedagogy

The instructional heart of this course relies on active oral immersion, deliberate repetition, and targeted form drills. In each of the 48 recorded video lectures, Dr. Noe engages directly with four live students, using spoken Latin as the primary medium of instruction. By discussing the text, asking questions, and drilling grammatical structures primarily in the target language, Dr. Noe guides these classroom participants through the immediate application of new concepts.

Within this inductive framework, rote memorization is not entirely avoided, as the mastery of terminal endings and core vocabulary remains a necessary component of classical language acquisition. However, mechanical memorization is not prioritized as the primary tool; instead, paradigms are reinforced through constant contextual usage and spoken application.

As a remote student signing up for this course, your role is to actively watch, listen to, and learn from these four video participants. They serve as your classroom proxies. Rather than watching a polished, artificial presentation, you will see real students working through the language in real time. You will learn not only by imitating their successes and clear pronunciation, but also by observing their struggles, missteps, and subsequent corrections. By practicing the forms alongside them during Dr. Noe's prompts, you will develop the intuitive linguistic habits necessary to read Latin well.

Course Features & Components

Instructional Videos

The core of the course consists of **48 videos** distributed across Chapters X–XVIII. Each video is approximately **20 to 45 minutes in length**, and each chapter includes *approximately* six dedicated videos, but the exact number is **not distributed evenly**—it varies depending on the length, narrative density, grammatical complexity, and natural breaks in each *capitulum*.

These videos break the material into manageable segments and include:

- Reading aloud with pronunciation guidance and proper macron/vowel length observation.
- Word-by-word, line-by-line or section-by-section explanation of meaning and context.
- Targeted vocabulary focus and structural form practice.
- Grammar in action via inductive discovery.

Homework, Practice, & Quizzes

- **Preparation:** Read the assigned *lectiones* before or alongside watching the videos.
- **Textbook Exercises:** Complete the *Grammatica Latina* notes and *Pensa* A, B, and C in the book for every chapter.
- **Chapter Assessments:** One **Vocabulary Quiz and Homework Assignment** at the end of each chapter (9 total). Quizzes test recognition, forms, and basic usage (Latin ↔ English and English → Latin sentences drawn directly from the chapter text).

Additional Support

- Weekly optional Zoom office hours for live interaction.
- Email, text, and phone access to the instructor for text and syntax questions.
- Recorded office sessions available for later review.
- One full year of continuous access to all online course materials.

Grading and Assessment Breakdown

Your final grade is calculated based on consistent chapter-by-chapter work and two comprehensive benchmark examinations. Each of the nine chapters covered in this unit (Chapters X through XVIII) features a dedicated homework assignment and vocabulary quiz:

- **Chapter Homework & Vocabulary Quizzes (9 chapters × 7% each):** 63%
- **Midterm Examination:** 17%
- **Final Examination:** 20%
- **Total:** 100%

Course Schedule & Chapter Summaries

Capitulum X — Bēstiae et Hominēs

- **General Content:** This chapter introduces the animal kingdom, classifying creatures of the air, sea, and land. It contrasts the natural abilities of animals with those of human beings, focusing on verbs of flying, swimming, and walking.
- **Grammatical Focus:** Introduction to Third-Conjugation verbs (-ere); the infinitive forms of all four conjugations; expanding on Third Declension noun patterns.
- **Assessment:** Capitulum X Homework & Vocabulary Quiz (7%)

Capitulum XI — Corpus Hūmānum

- **General Content:** This chapter introduces the vocabulary of the human body, physical health, and medical treatment. The narrative focuses on Quintus's sudden foot injury after falling from a tree, and the subsequent arrival of a doctor who treats him.
- **Grammatical Focus:** Introduction to the Third Declension (*nōmina tertiae dēclīnātiōnis*) for masculine, feminine, and neuter nouns; introduction to the Accusative with Infinitive (*accūsātīvus cum īnfīnītīvō*) construction used after verbs of saying, perceiving, and thinking.
- **Assessment:** Capitulum XI Homework & Vocabulary Quiz (7%)

Capitulum XII — Mīles Rōmānus

- **General Content:** The narrative shifts to a broader cultural and geopolitical look at the Roman Empire, focusing on Marcus's uncle, a soldier stationed on Germany's frontier. It describes military gear, weapons, and the structure of the Roman legions guarding the borders.
- **Grammatical Focus:** The Fourth Declension (*dēclīnātiō quārta*) nouns ending in *-us* and *-ū*; the comparison of adjectives (forming the comparative with *-ior* and *-ius*); introduction to the Dative of Advantage/Disadvantage (*datīvus commodī/incommodī*).
- **Assessment:** Capitulum XII Homework & Vocabulary Quiz (7%)

Capitulum XIII — Annus et Mēnsēs

- **General Content:** This chapter covers astronomy, timekeeping, and the structure of the Roman calendar. It describes the orbit of the moon and sun, the lengths of days and nights across different seasons, and the historical origins of the names of the months.
- **Grammatical Focus:** The Fifth Declension (*dēclīnātiō quīnta*) nouns like *diēs* and *rēs*; expressions of time using the Ablative of Time (*ablātīvus temporis*); Roman numerals and mathematical counting systems.
- **Assessment:** Capitulum XIII Homework & Vocabulary Quiz (7%)

Capitulum XIV — Novus Diēs

- **General Content:** The storyline returns to the household layout as Marcus wakes up in the morning. The text walks through his morning routine with his slave Davus, including getting out of bed, washing himself, and putting on his clothing (*toga* and *tunica*).
- **Grammatical Focus:** Personal and Reflexive Pronouns (*is/ea/id, sē, suus*); identifying the distinct syntax between reflexive uses and demonstrative modifiers; the Ablative of Instrument or Means.
- **Assessments:**

- Capitulum XIV Homework & Vocabulary Quiz (7%)
- **MIDTERM EXAMINATION** (Covers Chapters X–XIV; 17% of final grade)

Capitulum XV — Magister et Discipulī

- **General Content:** Marcus and his schoolmates arrive at the schoolroom of their strict teacher, Magister Diodorus. The text depicts the dynamic of ancient Roman primary education, tracking the students' behavior, tardiness, and classroom recitations.
- **Grammatical Focus:** Introduction to the Passive Voice (*vōx passīva*) in the Present Tense across all four core verb conjugations; introduction to the Ablative of Personal Agent (*ablātīvus agentis*) using the preposition *ā/ab*.
- **Assessment:** Capitulum XV Homework & Vocabulary Quiz (7%)

Capitulum XVI — Tempestās

- **General Content:** This chapter follows a journey by sea. Characters travel to the harbor town of Ostia to board a merchant ship bound for southern Italy, navigating coastal Mediterranean geography and enduring a violent, terrifying sea storm.
- **Grammatical Focus:** Deponent verbs (verbs that display passive morphological forms but carry active meanings); advanced syntax of place including the Locative case (*locatīvus*), Accusative of place to which, and Ablative of place from which.
- **Assessment:** Capitulum XVI Homework & Vocabulary Quiz (7%)

Capitulum XVII — Numerī Difficilēs

- **General Content:** Back in the classroom, Magister Diodorus drills the boys on arithmetic, mental math, and monetary conversions using Roman coins (*as*, *sēstertius*, *dēnārius*). The narrative tracks the children's mistakes and corrections.
- **Grammatical Focus:** The grammar of counting and numbers; the proper declension of cardinal numbers (*ūnus*, *duo*, *trēs*) and the syntax of *mīlia*; the Genitive of the Whole / Partitive Genitive.
- **Assessment:** Capitulum XVII Homework & Vocabulary Quiz (7%)

Capitulum XVIII — Litterae Latīnae

- **General Content:** The final chapter of this unit explores literacy, writing tools (wax tablets, styluses, parchment, and ink), spelling, and grammar. The teacher examines, critiques, and corrects the students' handwriting and written letters.

- **Grammatical Focus:** Relative Pronouns (*quī, quae, quod*) and the syntax of relative clauses, focusing on the rule of agreement where a pronoun matches its antecedent in gender and number but takes its case from its grammatical role in its own clause.
- **Assessments:**
 - Capitulum XVIII Homework & Vocabulary Quiz (7%)
 - (Covers Chapters X–XVIII; 20% of final COMPREHENSIVE FINAL EXAMINATION grade)

Suggested Weekly Pace (Flexible)

- **Standard Pace (≈ 1 chapter per week):** Watch the chapter's specific videos + complete corresponding *Pensa* in the text + take the weekly vocabulary and form quiz.
- **Daily Recommendation:**
 - Spend 15–20 minutes in active reading aloud, tracking syntax contextually, and performing written exercise execution.
 - Dedicate targeted time to the practice of morphological forms using LatinPerDiem (LPD) supplemental drill materials.
 - Engage in extensive listening exercises by rewatching recorded classroom interactions to build oral familiarity and audio comprehension.
 - Make regular use of the Calvin's Latin Bible app to deepen language familiarity through Sacred Scripture and ancient historical creeds, while simultaneously using its platform to practice active audio recitation.

Course Policies

- **Self-Paced Progression:** Move at your own speed within the designated platform access period.
- **Academic Honesty:** All submitted homework and exam work should be entirely your own execution. The use of computerized translation tools or automated output generators is strictly prohibited; the primary objective of the natural method is to develop an intuitive capacity to think directly within the Latin language.
- **Platform Contact:** Technical issues or pedagogical questions may be submitted at any time via the communication tools on the LatinPerDiem platform.