

BETTER ENGLISH VIA LATIN

This class will offer both a course in language arts (spelling, grammar, vocabulary, etc.) as well as an introduction to the study of the Latin language, including some basic vocabulary, several of the noun declensions, and the first few verb tenses commonly covered in a first-year Latin course. We will emphasize how the study of Latin is closely related to the study of all five of the Romance (from Rome) languages: Spanish, French, Italian, Portuguese, and Romanian. In addition, we will note the importance of Latin in learning new or unfamiliar English words, both their spelling and definitions. Finally, we will examine the influence of Roman civilization, that is western civilization, on literature, arts, poetry, history, and a huge variety of other academic and professional areas.

We will use the text book *Getting Started with Latin: Beginning Latin for Homeschoolers and Self-Taught Students of Any Age*, William E. Linney III (Armfield Academic Press, 2007). From time to time we will use fun audiovisual and other resources to aid our understanding of the basic grammar concepts, and follow up with Latin cognates to drive home the specific examples in language and usage. Finally, we will add historical literature for cultural context and enrichment.

This class will be useful for all grades, later-elementary through high school.