

LATIN STUDIES AT TRINITY ACADEMY

Upperclassmen benefit from study of Latin

Latin is a required course for Trinity Academy's upperclassmen (grades 6-8) since the fall of 2014. Students meet with Latin instructor, Mrs. Linda Shea, three times per week to study the language of Latin, as well as its history, culture and influences on our modern society. Why-in the age of information, social media and global economies study Latin? When determining whether Latin should be introduced to the curriculum at Trinity Academy, administration and faculty conducted a thorough examination of all the latest research available and confirmed the multitude of benefits from the study of Latin. At Trinity Academy, we agree with experts that the study of Latin is a critical element of any student's academic formation:

- **To improve comprehension of the English language.** The study of Latin offers students a window into the English language. Students better understand the history and root of English words, they in turn are able to interpret the meaning of a host of new words in the form of the root word's derivatives. It is estimated that at least 60 percent of English vocabulary is derived from Latin.
- **To become students of all languages.** Students gain a solid foundation for all other languages when they have first studied Latin. Ninety to 95 percent of Spanish, French, Italian, Portuguese and Romanian vocabulary is derived from Latin. As a result, knowledge of Latin opens the doors to understanding a host of other languages.
- **To improve performance in math and science.** The logical nature of Latin study, the breaking down and analysis of patterns, has proven to enhance a student's analytical thinking. The skills learned in Latin study are applied to other subjects such as Algebra, Geometry, Botany and Biology. As a result, students who study Latin often perform well in math and science.



- **To better prepare for standardized tests.**

Studies have found that students who learn Latin score higher on the SAT test when compared to students who studied any other foreign language.

We believe these benefits transcend simply preparing our students for the continuation of their academic careers. The study of Latin will benefit our students throughout their lives, and supports the mission of Trinity Academy to help develop the "whole child."

"I like that we get to pick our own "Latin names" (mine is Hibernicus meaning man of Ireland) I also like using Latin to figure out meanings of words. I like the way Mrs. Shea teaches and the pace she teaches at. I hope that Latin will give me a leg up on vocabulary and help us with our scientific terms."

– Brian Bolger, Trinity Academy Class of 2017

"I really like Magistra Shea because she is nice and teaches us well. I hope that when I see a word in English that I don't know, that I can recognize it from Latin class."

– Ryan Reynolds, Trinity Academy Class of 2017

