

WHY TAKE LATIN?

- **To improve your English vocabulary.**
 - Approximately 60% of English words are derived from Latin. In Latin class, we study the relationship between Latin roots and English derivatives, and we practice using our knowledge of Latin to break down unknown English words.
- **To understand the fundamentals of language.**
 - Studying Latin improves your knowledge of English grammar and shows you how language works, which helps you communicate more effectively in your own language.
 - Also, since Latin is the parent of the Romance languages (French, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, and Romanian), knowledge of Latin will provide a solid foundation for future language study.
- **To immerse yourself in ancient Rome, the foundation of western civilization.**
 - In Latin class we meet the Romans and their multicultural empire through their literature, art, architecture, and customs. It's like time traveling to the ancient world!
- **To have a head start at learning scientific, medical, and legal terminology.**
 - Latin, of course, is the basis for much of this terminology. Latin students know their *homo sapiens* from their *habeas corpus*!
- **To improve your SAT scores.**
 - Year after year, Latin students outperform students of all other languages on the verbal section of the SAT. Latin students not only have advanced knowledge of word roots and language fundamentals, but they also have learned how to think critically and apply logic to the study of language.
- **To be unique.**
 - On your transcript and college applications, the study of Latin indicates an independent mind and a student unafraid of a challenge. Plus, you can impress your friends and family by actually knowing what "*E pluribus unum*" means!
- **To make friends and participate in a dynamic student community.**
 - Latin students get to know each other well by having class together year after year. They come to value their "Latin family" in the midst of this big school.

LATIN IS ALIVE at CHERRY CREEK HIGH SCHOOL!

- We offer a four-year sequence, with AP Latin in the fourth year. Our AP exam scores are consistently excellent, with nearly all students earning the top scores of 4 and 5, which can earn them college credit.
- We value an interdisciplinary approach, in which Latin grammar and vocabulary are learned within the context of Roman history, mythology, and culture. We make frequent connections between Latin and English and between ancient and modern cultures.
- Our Latin Club is a chapter of the National Junior Classical League, an international organization for students of Latin and Greek. We attend the two-day state convention in Estes Park every year, where we compete with about 400 Latin students from across Colorado and have a lot of fun!

- We take the **National Latin Exam**. Every year approximately 150,000 students from all 50 states and 13 foreign countries take this exam. Our students have a solid track record of winning awards, including many gold and silver medals, and even some perfect scores!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- Watch the 2016 Foreign Language video on our department webpage and hear students talk about their CCHS language study.
- Watch the TedX talk by Latin teacher Ryan Sellers on our department webpage for an excellent summary of the value of Latin.
- Contact CCHS Latin teachers Amy Sommer (720-554-2490, asommer@cherrycreekschools.org) and Jen Kindick (720-554-2093, jkindick@cherrycreekschools.org)