

The Biduum Experience: Speaking to Learn

The extraordinary experience of one of SALVI's immersion programs should not be underestimated. Unfortunately many people do not avail themselves of these wonderful programs for several reasons. First, many people believe that conversational Latin is a relatively meaningless diversion from the true study of the language. Second, those who may be interested are intimidated by the seemingly frightening reality of having to speak continuously in Latin. Third, even those who can imagine the fun of immersing oneself in speaking Latin sometimes are skeptical with regards for the practical benefits.

This past summer this presenter got to serve as a *repetitor* (assistant) to Nancy Llewellyn at a Biduum at Austin College in Sherman, Texas, and for the four previous summers the presenter attended Rusticatio Virginiana. In this session, the presenter will be describing and demonstrating via photos and videos what truly takes place at one of SALVI's immersion programs, and how the activities tie into what we can carry back to our own classrooms, not to mention our own lives.

SALVI's mission is to propagate communicative approaches to Latin language acquisition, making the entire Classical tradition of Western culture more available to—and enjoyable for—students, teachers, and the general public.

This presentation will make use of either a PowerPoint or Prezi presentation, thus needing a projector, etc. Ideal target audience is, well, everyone—secondary teachers, grad students, professors alike. If we want to keep our programs vibrant and thriving, it is imperative that we continue to adopt the best teaching methods available to us.