

Cui donat lepidum novum libellum?: Introducing a Bit of Active Latin into Your Current
Advanced Latin Classroom

This workshop is devoted to methods for introducing a bit of active Latin into a “traditional” advanced Latin classroom. Second language acquisition research has taught us that time spent “in the language” helps us to acquire language. (See, for example, Carlon 2013, with references.) The new *Standards for Classical Language Learning* include a welcome acknowledgment of this fact (Elifrits, English, Little et al. 2016). The purpose of this workshop is to show how and how easily one can introduce a small portion of active Latin into an upper-level Latin classroom through select questioning and response that draws upon and reinforces grammatical structures and forms as well as key vocabulary from the students’ advanced Latin texts under study.

The workshop will consist of three parts. The first part will provide an introduction in English explaining the presenter’s own experience introducing some active Latin into her own advanced-level college classroom, the reasons for doing so, the students’ reactions, and her own evaluation of the experience. Then the audience will participate in a session in Latin -- they as students and the presenter as teacher -- based on Catullus Poem 1 (hence the reworked Latin in the workshop’s title), a copy of which will be distributed. Finally, the audience will provide feedback on their reasons for participating in the workshop and their responses to the experience of the workshop. At the end of the session, a handout will be shared containing many of the Latin questions used during the workshop, which participants can use as models, if they like, for designing their own bit of Latin in an advanced Latin classroom of their own.

The presenter is a very experienced Latin teacher, but a relative novice with using active Latin in teaching. The workshop, open to all, is especially designed for those other novices

interested in trying something they may not have before in the interests of gaining some of the benefits from the use of active Latin, especially in the advanced-level Latin classroom. The presenter expects to gain useful feedback from the workshop in the interests of providing a wider future audience with reasons for and some tools for incorporating a bit of active Latin at the advanced level of instruction.

Bibliography

Carlson, Jacqueline M. "The Implications of SLA Research for Latin Pedagogy: Modernizing Latin Instruction and Securing its Place in Curricula." *Teaching Classical Languages* 4.2 (2013): 106-122

Elifrits, English, Little et al. Draft, *Standards for Classical Language Learning*

https://aclclassics.org/uploads/assets/files/Standards/Standards_for_Classical_Language_Learning_2016.pdf