

# NATIONAL LATIN SURVEY

**Please read with your parent/guardian.**

If you are 13 or older, please go to [students.NationalLatinSurvey.com](https://students.NationalLatinSurvey.com).

Description of the research: **Why do people take Latin?** There are many reasons. The purpose of this study is to survey middle and high school students and teachers all across the United States and find out the many different reasons why people study and teach Latin. **Your child's opinion is important** because what s/he says may help authors write new Latin textbooks and **help teachers teach what students want to learn.**

Time involvement: **Participation will take approximately 10-15 minutes.**

Benefits and risks: There are no direct benefits to you or your child for participation in the study. A possible indirect benefit of participation may be a raised awareness of the benefits of Latin study, but this cannot be guaranteed. The risks associated with this study are questioning why taking Latin benefits you or your child and possible boredom. Participation is voluntary and you or your child may decide to stop at any time.

Data storage to protect confidentiality: **Your child's individual survey will NOT be shared with your child's teacher – please tell your child to be honest!** Your child's individual responses will be kept in a password-encrypted folder on a password-protected computer in a secret location. Data will be coded so that **it is impossible to identify your child by the responses.** The investigator will not publish any information or combination of data points that can be used to identify you or your child. Your child will be asked for the name of the school s/he goes to and its location – neither of these pieces of data will be published and they will only be used by the researcher.

How will results be used: The results of the study will be used to look at student and teacher responses from across the United States. Latin teachers, curriculum designers, and textbook authors from around the world may use the results to design Latin classes that match what students want to learn and what teachers want to teach.

In order for the results of this study to accurately represent what students want in Latin class, it is important that each survey be completed in its entirety and returned. Please have your child complete the survey at the earliest possible convenience. **If you or your child chooses not to complete this survey, please write a reason why on the signature line on the next page.**

**Your and your child's participation is greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance for your help.**

Sincerely,



Elliott Goodman  
Principal Investigator, National Latin Survey  
ekg2113@tc.columbia.edu

SIGN NEXT PAGE

TO CONTINUE

## Informed Consent: Participant's Rights for Parents/Guardians

**Principal Investigator:** Elliott Goodman

**Research Title:** National Latin Survey: Latin in Secondary School Needs Analysis

**IRB Protocol Number:** 13-285

*If you are 13 or older, please go to [students.NationalLatinSurvey.com](http://students.NationalLatinSurvey.com)*

- I have read the Research Description with my child. If at any time my child or I have questions about the purposes and procedures regarding this study, my child or I can contact the investigator, who will answer our questions. The investigator's e-mail address is ekg2113@tc.columbia.edu and his phone number is (310) 613-7070.
- **My child's participation in research is voluntary. I may refuse to participate or withdraw my child from participation at any time** without jeopardy to student status or any entitlement.
- The researcher may withdraw my child from the research at his professional discretion.
- If, during the course of the study, significant new information that has been developed becomes available which may relate to my or my child's willingness to continue to participate, the investigator will provide this information to me.
- Any information derived from the research project that personally identifies me or my child will not be voluntarily released or disclosed without my separate consent and my child's assent, except as specifically required by law.
- If at any time my child or I have comments or concerns regarding the conduct of the research or questions about my rights as a research subject, we should contact the Teachers College, Columbia University Institutional Review Board/IRB. The phone number for the IRB is (212) 678-4105. Or, we can write to the IRB at Teachers College, Columbia University, 525 W. 120th Street, New York, NY, 10027, Box 151.
- My child and I should receive a copy of the Research Description, this Participant's Rights document, and the Minor's Assent document.
- By signing, allowing my child to complete the survey, and returning the survey, I express my informed consent that my child may participate in the study and that:
  - the purpose and nature of the study have been fully explained to me and my child.
  - I understand what is being asked of me and my child, and should we have any questions, we know that we can contact Elliott Goodman, principal investigator, at any time.
  - my child and I understand that **my child's teacher may not ask about my child's participation.**
  - my child and I also understand that my child can quit the study any time I or my child wants to.

Parent/Guardian's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_/\_\_/13  
(or reason for not participating) mm/ dd

### Assent Form for Minors Aged 12 or Younger

I \_\_\_\_\_ (child's name) agree to participate in the study entitled: National Latin Survey. The purpose and nature of the study have been fully explained to me by my parent/guardian and Elliott Goodman, the principal investigator. I understand what is being asked of me, and should I have any questions, I know that I can contact Elliott Goodman at any time. I understand that **I do not need to tell my teacher that I participated in this study and that my teacher should not ask me.** I also understand that I can quit the study any time I want to.

Name of Participant: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Participant: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**CONTINUE ON THE NEXT PAGE**

*Please respond to the following questions.*

**1. In Latin class, what topics do you want to learn about in Latin?**

Complete the sentence: *"I want to learn about...."*

**2. In Latin class, what topics do you want to learn about in English?**

Complete the sentence: *"I want to learn about...."*

**3. In Latin class, what do you want to learn to do using Latin?**

Complete the sentence: *"I want to learn how to...."*

**4. In Latin class, what do you want to learn to do using English?**

Complete the sentence: *"I want to learn how to...."*

**CONTINUE ON THE NEXT PAGE**

For questions 5 and 6, think about what you have learned or hope to learn in Latin class.

**5. What will you use in your job or career in the future?**

**6. What will you use in your personal life in the future?**

**7. What is your favorite part of your Latin learning experience?**

**8. What would you change (add or take away) about your Latin learning experience?**

**CONTINUE ON THE NEXT PAGE**

**1-Strongly Agree****2-Agree****3-Neutral****4-Disagree****5-Strongly Disagree**

Using the scale above where "1" means "strongly agree," (circle) the number that best reflects your opinion.

**Right now, why are you studying Latin?**

		Strongly Agree			Strongly Disagree			
		←					→	
9.	to study Latin grammar	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	
10.	to read ancient literature	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	
11.	to learn how to speak Latin	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	
12.	to learn how to translate well	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	
13.	to learn about ancient history	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	
14.	to be different from other kids	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	
15.	because I like the Latin teacher	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	
16.	because I like ancient mythology	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	
17.	for a connection with my religion	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	
18.	because my friends are taking Latin	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	
19.	because a family member took Latin	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	
20.	to connect with an ancient civilization	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	
21.	to improve my English language skills	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	
22.	to learn a new way of looking at the world	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	
23.	because I don't want to speak in language class	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	
24.	to learn about ancient warfare, military, and battles	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	
25.	to learn vocabulary for the SATs or other standardized tests	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	
26.	to prepare me for a specific job (e.g. lawyer, doctor, archaeologist)	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	
27.	to learn skills useful for life	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	
	<i>Please give one or more brief examples:</i> _____							
28.	because of a book/TV show/movie (e.g. Harry Potter, Spartacus)	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	
	<i>What is/are the title(s)?</i> _____							
29.	to learn how to read Latin <b>with</b> translation	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	
30.	to learn how to read Latin <b>without</b> translation	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	
31.	I can't explain it. Latin is just awesome!	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	
32.	because I am required to by my school, parents, or someone else	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	
33.	Other: _____	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	

**34. Think about why you are studying Latin. Does your current class meet those expectations?**

1 2 3 4 5 N/A

**CONTINUE ON THE NEXT PAGE**

**1-Very Important****2-Important****3-Moderately Important****4-Low Importance****5-Not at all Important****There are many things you might do in Latin class. How important to you is each of the following?**

		Very Important ←————→ Not at all Important					
		1	2	3	4	5	N/A
35.	learning world history	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
36.	learning to think critically	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
37.	increasing English vocabulary	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
38.	learning to recognize patterns	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
39.	improving English language skills	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
40.	learning strategies for translation	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
41.	standing out on college applications	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
42.	preparing to learn another language	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
43.	understanding literature more deeply	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
44.	reading a text in its original language	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
45.	understanding Christianity more deeply	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
46.	learning vocabulary of a Romance language	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
47.	connecting with people who lived 2,000 years ago	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
48.	becoming part of an unbroken 3,000 year tradition	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
49.	understanding modern culture and society more deeply	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
50.	seeing connections between America and ancient Rome	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
51.	Other: _____	1	2	3	4	5	N/A

**1-Very Interested****2-Interested****3-Neutral****4-Uninterested****5-Very Uninterested****What topics are you interested in studying in Latin class?**

		Very Interested ←————→ Very Uninterested					
		1	2	3	4	5	N/A
52.	art history	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
53.	mythology	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
54.	Latin grammar	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
55.	translation skills	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
56.	Latin vocabulary	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
57.	Medieval history	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
58.	English vocabulary	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
59.	military history and battles	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
60.	Christian Bible and/or Mass	1	2	3	4	5	N/A

**CONTINUE ON THE NEXT PAGE**

**What topics are you interested in studying in Latin class?** (continued)

	Very Interested			Not at all Interested		
	←-----→					
	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
61. Early Christian history (e.g. Augustine, Perpetua)	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
62. literary devices (e.g. meter, alliteration, chiasmus)	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
63. archaeology (e.g. coins, stratigraphy, carbon dating)	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
64. Roman games and spectacles (e.g. chariot races, gladiators)	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
65. construction and architecture (e.g. roads, aqueducts, temples)	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
66. ancient daily life (e.g. Roman clothing, houses, religious practices)	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
67. a specific passage of ancient literature <i>What author and text?</i> _____	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
68. vocabulary/skills to help me for a specific job (e.g. lawyer, doctor, archaeologist)	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
69. history of the Roman Republic (e.g. kings, Punic wars, Julius Caesar)	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
70. history of the Roman Empire (e.g. Augustus, Marcus Aurelius)	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
71. Other: _____	1	2	3	4	5	N/A

**72. What are your future plans for Latin study or use?** (Check all that apply.)

- I will take all the Latin courses my school currently offers.
- I will stop taking Latin as soon as I am able.
- I will take Latin at the next level (e.g. high school or college).
- I will complete my foreign language requirements and then stop studying Latin.
- I will study another language. (What language? \_\_\_\_\_)
- I want to study Latin more but cannot because my high school or college does not offer it.
- I will major or minor in Classics in college.
- I will use Latin in my job in some way. (What job? \_\_\_\_\_)
- I will use Latin for religious purposes.
- I plan on reading my favorite Latin poems/texts outside of class **in Latin**.
- I plan on reading my favorite Latin poems/texts outside of class **in English or another language**.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**73. Do you have friends who stopped taking Latin at your school? What reason(s) do they give for dropping Latin? List as many reasons as you want.**

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**74. Who played the primary role in your decision to choose Latin or attend a school requiring Latin?**

(Check one.)

- My parent(s)/guardian(s) made the decision
- My parent(s)/guardians and I decided together
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- I chose myself
- A guidance counselor or academic advisor made the decision

**75. Think about the decision to attend your school. To what extent did the requirement or option to take Latin influence the person making the decision?** (Select the appropriate response.)

- Latin was the ONLY reason considered.
- Latin played a MAJOR role in the decision.
- Latin played a MINOR role in the decision.
- Latin played NO role in the decision.
- I enrolled at this school DESPITE the requirement or option to study Latin.
- I/they DID NOT KNOW about the requirement or option to study Latin.
- I attend the school assigned to me by my local school district.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**76. Is there anything else important to know about why you study Latin? Anything left out above?**

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**L. Ethnicity:** (Optional, Check all that apply.)

- Arab/Middle Eastern     Black/African-American     East/Southeast Asian     European/Caucasian/White
- Hispanic/Latin American     Native American/Pacific Islander     South/Central Asian     Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**M. The next question asks about formal education your parent(s)/guardian(s) completed. Think of one parent/guardian who raised you:** (Check one.)

- mother     father     grandmother     grandfather     legal guardian     other: \_\_\_\_\_

**How much formal education did this parent/guardian complete?** (Check one.)

- no formal education     did not begin high school     some high school
- completed high school (e.g. G.E.D.)     some college     completed college (e.g. AA, BA, BS)
- some graduate study     completed graduate study (e.g. PhD, MD, JD, MA)     N/A or I don't know

**N. Is there anything you'd like to add that you have not been asked about?**

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**Thank you very much for completing this survey.**

*Please be assured that all individual responses will be kept confidential. Your participation helps Latin teachers and students better know how to make the best Latin learning experience!*

**CONTINUE ON THE NEXT PAGE**

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# WHEN YOU FINISH THE SURVEY

I. CLOSE THE BOOKLET

II. FOLD IN HALF SO THE RETURN ADDRESS IS VISIBLE

III. STAPLE OR TAPE THE EDGES TO SEAL THE BOOKLET WELL

IV. DROP IN ANY MAILBOX

**TEACHERS COLLEGE  
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY**

# NATIONAL LATIN SURVEY

*Thank you for your help!*

Box 66  
525 W. 120th St.  
New York, NY 10027-6696

**To: National Latin Survey  
ATTN: Elliott Goodman  
TESOL and Applied Linguistics Programs  
Box 66  
525 W. 120th St.  
New York, NY 10027-6696**