**Description of the 6th Grade Latin Class**:

* All 6th graders take ‘Introduction to Latin.’  This class is an introduction to the Greco-Roman world.  It is not an intensive study of the Latin language.
* The class only meets once a week for 70 minutes.
* A variety of different topics are covered during the year:  basics of the Latin language, mythology, ancient history & geography, Roman culture, English derivatives from Latin words, and more.
* There are 2 main texts:  the popular Greek Mythology and The Odyssey (an abridged version of Homer’s Odyssey, which tells the story of the Greek Odysseus returning home from the Trojan War. Other materials will be provided through handouts and study packets.
* Bulletin Board on the Portal contains all the information about the class, including the goals of the class, grading policy, late homework penalties, and the quiz retake policy.

**After School Latin for 6th graders**:  An ‘After School Latin’ program is offered to any interested 6th graders.  It is completely voluntary; there are no graded assignments; students can attend none of the sessions or just a few or every single one.  There is a ‘6th Grade After School Latin’ every few weeks.  Each one is 3:15-4:15 in Larry’s room.  Dates for these sessions will be posted on the Portal and emailed to parents.  Topics will include:  the origin of the name ‘Cincinnati,’ famous quotes by Julius Caesar, Gladiators, and more.

* THE 1ST SESSION WILL BE MON SEPT 30, 3:15-4:15 – the origin of the name ‘Cincinnati.’

**3 National Competitions:** 6th graders will have the opportunity to take 3 national exams:  the National Mythology Exam (Feb), the Exploratory Latin Exam (March), and the Classical Literacy Exam (May). These exams offer prizes (ribbons, certificates, medals) for top scorers.  Summit has always numerous winners, and the prizes really give students a sense of accomplishment and pride.

**On Friday November 12th, there will be our 24th annual ‘Celebration of the Classics.’**

* The event rotates between 4 influential works of classical literature: Homer’s Iliad, Homer’s Odyssey, Vergil’s Aeneid, and Ovid’s Metamorphoses. This year, the event will focus on Homer’s Odyssey.
* According to tradition, the blind Greek poet Homer composed the Odyssey in the 8th century BC.  It tells the story of the Greek hero Odysseus and his adventures after the Trojan War.  For 10 years, Odysseus faces ferocious monsters, terrible storms, and angry gods.  And when he finally arrives home in Ithaca, an army of enemies await him in his own palace.  In the end (of course!), the hero reunites with his son Telemachus and his faithful wife Penelope.  Some of the most famous scenes from the Odyssey include:  the blinding of the Cyclops, the witch Circe, the Land of the Dead, and the climactic ‘contest of the bow.’
* The event includes art projects, student presentations, and ‘Jeopardy!’-style competitions.  ALL LATIN STUDENTS WILL COMPLETE A PROJECT FOR THIS EVENT – DUE DATE IS WED NOV 10.

**The Latin teachers**:  Larry Dean and Lisa Mays are the 2 Latin teachers at The Summit.  Larry is beginning his 23rd year at Summit, and Lisa is starting her 6th year at Summit.

Larry teaches 2 MS and 3 US classes:

* MS - 3 sections of the 6th grade ‘Intro to Latin’ (70 minutes, once a week)
* MS – 8th grade Latin
* US – CP Latin 3
* US – CP Latin 4
* US – AP Latin / Honors Latin 4

Lisa teaches 1 MS and 4 US classes:

* MS – 8th grade Latin
* US – CP Latin 1
* US – CP / Honors Latin 2
* US - Honors Latin 3
* US – Ancient Greek (12th grade elective)

**Students who begin in 6th grade and choose to take Latin as their World Language will have Larry or Lisa as their teacher for 7 years!  This continuity of instruction is one of the strengths of the Latin program because we really get to know each individual student.**

**Latin at The Summit**:

* All 6th graders take ‘Intro to Latin’ (which meets once a week).
* In 7th-12th grades, students choose their language of study.
* 33 7th/8th grade students take Latin (28%), and 64 US students take Latin (17%).
* All students are required to take at least 3 years of an US language or 2 years of 2 US languages; most take 4 years of the same language.
* Students in the 11th and 12th grades can take the AP Latin course.
* Honors Ancient Greek is available to seniors who have completed their Latin language sequence.

**INFORMATION ABOUT THE LATIN PROGRAM FOR GRADES 7-12**

**The Latin Club**:  All Latin students can participate in Latin Club events.  All events will be announced in class, posted on the Portal, and emailed in advance to students & parents.  Events range from academic to artistic to social to service (in pre-pandemic years, we did hundreds of community service hours each year).

**Latin Honor Society**:  The Latin Honor Society is an honorary organization for students who have exhibited excellence in the study of the Latin language.  The annual induction into the LHS occurs in May.  Students in the Latin Honor Society must:

* maintain an “A” average in Latin through the first 3 quarters
* demonstrate dedication and enthusiasm for the language
* participate in at least 4 events sponsored by the Latin Club (service activities count double)

**Academic Competitions**:  The Latin program offers students a number of opportunities for students to be recognized for their academic achievements. All of these exams offer prizes (ribbons, certificates, medals, even cash!) for top scorers.  Summit has always had a number of winners, and the prizes really give students a sense of accomplishment and pride.  Continued excellence on these exams can also produce college scholarships and chances for $$ – Tullus Dean (’17) received a $1500 Latin-sponsored scholarship for his first year at Xavier University; Joseph Delamerced (’18) won a $500 Cash Award for his excellence on the NJCL Online Exams; Julia Dean (’19) and Ryan Burns (’20) earned $4000 Latin-sponsored scholarships for their first year at the University of Cincinnati and the University of Pennsylvania.

* National Mythology Exam
* Medusa Mythology Exam
* National Latin Exam
* National Greek Exam – 12th grade only
* National Classical Etymology Exam
* National Roman Civilization Exam
* National Latin Vocabulary Exam
* ‘Classical Association of Middle and Western States’ Translation Contest
* Vergilian Society Sight Translation Exam
* Classical Literacy Exam

**Certamen**:  Certamen (which is a Latin word meaning ‘competition’) is a Jeopardy!-style game on all aspects of the classical world.  This year, competitions will probably occur on Zoom: locally, they will be on Saturdays (from 9 am-11ish am) every month or so; a state competition will be held in March during the virtual Convention; and a national competition will take place during the summer. The Summit Latin program has a proud tradition of excellence in certamen.  We have won many State Championships, and Summit students have been members of 5 National Championship teams.

**Ohio Latin Convention**:  Each March, a group of about 40 Summit students spend a weekend in a hotel in Columbus with 500 other Ohio Latin students, and the entire weekend is devoted to the study of the Latin language.  Sounds like fun!  **This year, the convention will probably be virtual, and the dates are Fri March 11 – Sun March 13.**  More information will be given out during the school year, but the [Ohio Junior Classical League Convention](http://ojcl.org/state-convention/) is a wonderful opportunity for your child to earn awards (in academics, in graphic arts, and in performance arts) and to meet other students their age from around the state.  The Summit group always wins bunch of ribbons, medals, and trophies!  Summit has won the State Championship in Overall Points for 9 of the past 12 years! Here is the article about the 2019 victory: [Summit Latin Wins Academic Per Capita and Overall Points at the 2019 Ohio Junior Classical League Convention](https://summitcds-my.sharepoint.com/personal/dean_l_summitcds_org/Documents/Latin%20Club%20pix%20and%20docs/2019%20Ohio%20Junior%20Classical%20League%20Convention%20Article.pdf).

**National Latin Convention**:  There is also a National Convention in the summer.  Here is [the article about the 2019 National Convention](https://summitcds-my.sharepoint.com/personal/dean_l_summitcds_org/Documents/Latin%20Club%20pix%20and%20docs/2019%20NJCL%20article.pdf). For my Instagram about the 2019 NJCL Convention at Miami University (OH), click here:  <https://www.instagram.com/larry81dean/>.  Here is [the article by Lisa Mays](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cdean_l%5COneDrive%20-%20Summit%20Country%20Day%20School%5CLatin%20Club%20pix%20and%20docs%5C2020%20NJCL%20article%20by%20Lisa%20Mays.docx) about the 2020 virtual NJCL Convention during which Irene Calderon was elected as the National Editor. **In 2022, Nationals will be at the University of Louisiana Lafayette, July 24-30, or it will be held virtually.**