



## Latin: A Linguistic Introduction (Oxford Linguistics)

By Renato Oniga

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### **Latin: A Linguistic Introduction (Oxford Linguistics)** By Renato Oniga

This textbook provides a detailed introduction to the study of Latin from the perspective of contemporary linguistics. It adopts some basic tenets of generative grammar in an in-depth analysis of the main phonological, morphological, and syntactic properties of Latin, and offers a step-by-step guide to the universal principles and specific parameters which shape the language, along with comparative data from English and other languages.

*Latin: A Linguistic Introduction* is a user-friendly and essential guide to the synchronic study of Latin as a natural language. The clarity of exposition and the richness of the examples cited provide a new approach to Latin as a topic of linguistic research: although the general structure of the book is like that of a traditional Latin grammar, the discussion of grammatical rules is both more straightforward and more theoretically informed.

This textbook is principally suitable for students of Latin and Romance linguistics at undergraduate level and above, but also for teachers and researchers interested in new ways of looking at the study of Latin. It differs from many other textbooks in the field by striking a valuable balance between the longstanding tradition of classical philology and the innovations of contemporary linguistics.

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## **Editorial Review**

### Review

"Due to its originality and rigorous analysis this book is destined to occupy a distinct place among the recent works in Latin linguistics." *Journal of Historical Linguistics*

### About the Author

**Renato Oniga** is Professor of Latin at the University of Udine, Italy. He translated Plautus, *Anfitrione* (Venice, Marsilio, 1991) and Tacitus, *Opera Omnia* (Turin, Einaudi, 2005). His contributions to Latin linguistics include the monograph *I composti nominali latini* (Bologna, Patron, 1988) as well as several volumes as editor: the revised Italian version of *Lateinische Stilistik* by J.B. Hofmann and A. Szantyr (Bologna, Patron, 2002); *Il plurilinguismo nella tradizione letteraria latina* (Rome, Il Calamo, 2003); *Atti della Giornata di Linguistica Latina* (Venice, Cafoscarina, 2006); *Formal Linguistics and the Teaching of Latin* (Newcastle, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2011); and *Lingue antiche e moderne dai licei alle università* (Bologna, Il Mulino, 2012). He is Editor-in-Chief of the international online journal *Lingue antiche e moderne*.

Norma Schifano is a PhD student and Gates Scholar of Romance linguistics at the Department of Italian, University of Cambridge. She is currently working on a comparative study of verb-movement across different Romance varieties.

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