

## MEDIEVAL INSTITUTE LATIN EXAM, FALL 2017

The exam consists of **three passages**.

The **first** is a passage for unaided translation, i. e., it must be translated without a dictionary or any other kind of aid.

In your translation of the **second** and **third** passages you may make use of **any instruments** you wish (dictionaries, grammar books, Latin Bible, etc.).

You will be allowed **three hours** for this exam.

Please write your translation on **lined paper**, skipping **every other line**, **numbering** the pages consecutively, and labeling each with your **exam number**; please leave **wide margins** and use only **one side** to facilitate photocopying!

☞ **You are not permitted to use a computer during the exam period.**

### **To pass the exam:**

- You must translate the **entire** passages (apart from possible minor omissions).
- The translation must show a good **overall understanding** of the text.
- The **syntactical structure** of the majority of single sentences must be correctly rendered.
- There should be very few grave errors in the translation of single **word-forms** (tense, number, case, etc.) per passage.

**Please produce an intelligible and grammatically correct English translation. If necessary, add a more literal translation in brackets or notes to show your understanding of the Latin text.**

**Procedure:** After each paper has been graded independently by the members of the MI Latin Exam Committee, the Committee will determine your final grade (**pass/fail**). You will be informed of the result by the Director of the Medieval Institute or the DGS of the Department of History.

**Please schedule an appointment with the Chair of the Committee (hmuller@nd.edu) to discuss your exam paper!**

## PASSAGE NO 1: UNAIDED PASSAGE

### Alcuin, Letter 17: a letter to Aethelhard, Archbishop of Canterbury, advising him of his priestly duties

Esto miseris consolator, pauperibus pater; omnibus affabilis, donec intellegas, quid cuique respondeas; et semper tua responsio sale sit sapientiae condita, non temeraria sed honesta, non verbosa sed modesta. Sint tibi mores humanitate praeclari, humilitate laudabiles, pietate amabiles; ut non solum verbis, sed exemplis erudias tecum viventes vel ad te venientes. Sit tua manus larga in elymosinis, prompta in reddendo et cauta in accipiendo. Praepara tibi thesaurum in caelis: Divitiae viri redemptio est animae illius, quia beatius dare quam accipere. Invenimus unam margaritam pretiosam: demus omnia, quae habemus, et emamus illam. Lectio sanctae scripturae saepius tuis reperiat in manibus, ut ex illa te saturare et alios pascere valeas. Vigiliae et orationes assiduae sint tibi; eo magis, quo pro toto populo Christiano intercedere debes. Locus tuus est inter Deum stare et homines, ut Dei legationes deferas ad populum et pro populi peccatis intercedas ad Deum. Fac te eius donante gratia dignum ab eo exaudiri. Memor esto, quod sacerdos angelus Domini Dei est excelsi et lex sancta ex ore eius requirenda est.

- 4 *elemosyna*: alms, charitable giving
- 5 *thesaurus*: treasure, treasure-chest
- 6 *margarita*: pearl
- 9 *legatio*: message

## PASSAGE NO 2: FIRST AIDED PASSAGE

**Paul the Deacon, *Historia Langobardorum*, 3.11: a bad emperor and a good caesar**

Per haec tempora apud Constantinopolim Iustinus minor regnabat, vir in omni avaritia deditus, contemptor pauperum, senatorum spoliator. Cui tanta fuit cupiditatis rabies, ut arcas iuberet ferreas fieri, in quibus ea quae rapiebat auri talenta congereret. Quem etiam ferunt in heresim Pelagianam dilapsam. Hic cum a divinis mandatis aurem cordis averteret, iusto Dei iudicio amisso rationis intellectu amens effectus est. Hic Tiberium caesarem adscivit, qui eius palatium vel singulas provincias gubernaret, hominem iustum, utilem, strenuum, sapientem, elimosinarium, in iudiciis aequum, in victoriis clarum et, quod his omnibus supereminet, verissimum Christianum. Hic cum multa de thesauris quos Iustinus adgregaverat pauperibus erogaret, Sophia augusta frequentius eum increpabat, quod rem publicam redigisset in paupertatem, dicens: “Quod ego multis annis congregavi, tu infra paucum tempus prodige dispergis”. Agebat autem ille: “Confido in Domino, quia non deerit pecunia fisco nostro, tantum ut pauperes elimosinam accipiant aut captivi redimantur. Ergo de his quae Dominus tribuit congregemus thesauros in caelo, et Dominus nobis augere dignabitur in seculo”. Igitur Iustinus cum undecim annis regnasset, amentiam, quam incurrerat, tandem cum vita finivit.

**1** *Iustinus minor*: Justin II (c. 520-578), Byzantine emperor 565-574

**5** *caesarem*: leave untranslated. Title of the co-regent and successor of the emperor.

**6** *elimosinarius*: generous in almsgiving

### PASSAGE NO 3: Second AIDED PASSAGE

#### Venantius Fortunatus, Carmen 8.8: To Queen Radegund, with a gift of flowers

O regina potens, aurum cui et purpura vile est,  
floribus ex parvis te veneratur amans.

Et si non res est, color est tamen ipse per herbas:

purpura per violas, aurea forma crocus.

5 Dives amore dei vitasti praemia mundi:

illas contemnens has retinebis opes.

Suscipe missa tibi variorum munera florum,

ad quos te potius vita beata vocat.

Quae modo te crucias, recreanda in luce futura,

10 aspicias hinc qualis te retinebit ager.

Per ramos fragiles quos nunc praebemus olentes

perpende hinc quantus te refovebit odor.

Haec cui debentur, precor ut, cum veneris illuc,

meque tuis meritis dextera blanda trahat.

15 Quamvis te exspectet paradisi gratia florum,

isti vos cupiunt iam revidere foris.

Et licet egregio videantur odore placere,

plus ornant proprias te redeunte comas.

2 *ipse*: the same

9 *te crucias*: Radegund lived a very ascetic life

13 *precor*: add *te*: "you, to whom ..."

14 *meque* = *etiam me*

16 *revidere* ... 18 *te redeunte*: Radegund was living in strict seclusion