



# Latin 308: Cicero's *Philippics*

Spring 2025    MTh 10:00-11:20 a.m.    Professor Cedric Littlewood

In 44-43 B.C.E., Cicero delivered a series of fourteen speeches against Mark Antony. These speeches—named the *Philippics* after the famous orations that the Athenian statesman Demosthenes delivered against Philip of Macedon—denounce Mark Antony as a wannabe tyrant and depraved sensualist. The speeches so enraged Mark Antony that he later had Cicero killed. Find out why Mark Antony took offence! In this course students will read the *Second Philippic*, a masterpiece of character assassination which lays out in lurid detail the “atrocities” of Mark Antony.

- develop your ability to read extended passages of Latin prose
- study Ciceronian rhetoric
- examine Cicero's use of invective in the *Second Philippic*
- learn about the historical context of the *Second Philippic*

Prerequisite: Latin 202, or permission of the department.