

## OVERVIEW of the Tutorial:

### ***IRA ET INDIGNATIO: An Introduction to Juvenal's Saturae***

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Woodcut of Juvenal from the Nuremberg Chronicle, late 1400s

#### **A Brief Overview of the Tutorial**

WELCOME to my tutorial, “*IRA ET INDIGNATIO: An Introduction to Juvenal’s Saturae*”! You should already have read this brief OVERVIEW via email or on the tutorial website, but I include it here for you to review, should you wish, prior to scrolling down to PENSVM I, your first assignment. This tutorial assumes a firm mastery of basic Latin grammar equivalent to that introduced in *Wheelock’s Latin* as well as significant prior experience in the reading and analysis of Latin poetry, ideally through work in my tutorials on Ovid and Vergil.

Juvenal is NOT an easy author, first because of his poetic and rhetorical pyrotechnics, and then because of the topical content of his Satires, including myriad references to specific persons, places, and political and social institutions. The good news is that for these very qualities the Satires have been much admired over the two millennia since their publication, and in the process of working through them with me you will increase not only your skills in reading Latin and in literary, rhetorical, and poetic analysis, but also your knowledge of ancient Rome, its places, and people, and social and political institutions and of attitudes toward them—all as viewed through the lens of a satirist whose persona is characterized by angry and indignant posturing that is itself often over the top and meant to be viewed by readers as laughably extreme (think of Stephen Colbert’s political satirist persona on television’s “The Daily Show” and “The Colbert Report”).

Assignments will introduce you to one of the most widely read and influential of Rome’s satirists, Decimus Iunius Iuvenalis, “Juvenal” as we call him today. Your work in the tutorial will involve:

- careful reading in Latin of Juvenal's first book (Satires 1-5, Satire 2 optional), translation into English of selections from that book, analysis and discussion of content and style, and scansion of selected lines from each satire (a familiarity with scansion, the conventions of dactylic hexameter, and the poetic, rhetorical, and metrical devices and figures of speech commonly employed by classical Latin poets, drawn from your prior study, is assumed)
- an overview of Juvenal's life and works, and his influence from antiquity to the present
- a brief introduction to the origins and evolution of the genre of Roman verse satire and to Juvenal's predecessors in that genre, Horace in particular

Your principal objectives in this tutorial should be to acquire the ability 1) to read (preferably aloud and expressively and with attention to meter and other sound effects, of course!), comprehend, translate, analyze, and discuss Juvenal's satires with some facility, and 2) to appreciate and discuss the literary, poetic, and rhetorical qualities of Juvenal's verse. Secondly, you should have gained some familiarity with the development of the genre of Roman verse satire and with the historical and literary context of Juvenal's work and its extensive influence.

If you approach your work with enthusiasm and determination, I am confident that you will find this introduction to Juvenal, and to Roman satire in general, a valuable and enjoyable learning experience. It is my sincere hope that the tutorial will serve your interests well and that together we will enjoy exploring Juvenal's uses of the rhetoric of "anger and indignation" in depicting, and condemning, the world of Rome, whose innumerable vices, to paraphrase the poet's own words, made it "difficult NOT to write satire."

### **The Textbooks**

The required texts for this tutorial are Susanna Braund's annotated edition, *Juvenal Satires Book I* (Cambridge University Press—it appears from the CUP web-page that the 1996 edition is the latest) and Peter Green's Penguin translation, *Juvenal: The Sixteen Satires* (revised 1999 edition), both readily available on AMAZON, AbeBooks, and elsewhere online; both volumes have highly useful introductions (save for Green's lapses into biographical fallacy), notes, and appendices. *Wheelock's Latin*, 7<sup>th</sup> Ed., and the exercises in Comeau and LaFleur's *Workbook for Wheelock's Latin*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed. Revised, are recommended for basic grammar review and reference (for ordering and ancillary resources, visit [www.wheelockslatin.com](http://www.wheelockslatin.com)).

### **Preparing Assignments**

Each of the 12 lessons (XII *pēnsa*) in this tutorial contains detailed reading and written assignments. The reading assignment includes selections from Juvenal in Latin and from Peter Green's translation (CAVEAT: consult Green's translation, and any other, including mine of Satire Three) ONLY AFTER having worked out your OWN reading and translation as fully as possible), as well as discussion material in the textbooks and, in some instances, additional online readings.

Only a portion of your work for each lesson, the Written Assignment, will actually be typed and emailed to me (directly in the body of your email, using CAPS for long vowels, e.g. amO/amAre). This work will generally consist of 1) your translation of a portion of the Latin assigned to be read, 2) your scansion of selected lines from those assigned for reading, and 3) short answer and discussion questions. Please submit ONLY the actual Written Assignment items, as those will be more than enough to develop your mastery and to keep us both quite busy. ☺

Whatever questions you may have that do not seem to be answered in either of the textbooks should be emailed along with your written work. After reading your assignment, I will email it back to you, usually within a few days, with thorough feedback, including corrections, if any, follow-up discussion, etc.

Only if you have *not* completed my Wheelock/Ovid/Vergil tutorials, you should request that I email you an initial assignment with a listening-oral reading component. We will then schedule an appointment for a 60-90 minute telephone meeting (or an in-person meeting if you are in, or visiting, the Athens GA area), which will serve two purposes (a) to let us get better acquainted and (b) for me to provide you some assistance with expressive oral reading of Juvenal's text, and, if necessary, with scansion. Additional, optional telephone meetings can be arranged for any of the subsequent lessons, should you wish, at the rate of \$60/hour.

Scheduling is pretty much up to you, except that I STRONGLY RECOMMEND doing SOME reading/reviewing from Juvenal in Latin, *every single day*, even if only 10-15 minutes. And be aware that you must be prepared to invest the large amount of quality time that this tutorial will require for success; you should expect to spend 10-12 hours per lesson, including time for thoughtful reading, translation, and discussion of the assigned passages from Juvenal, as well as assigned readings from secondary sources (Braund's and Green's introductions and essays as well as other online material).

If you were taking this tutorial as a course in a university setting, ordinarily you'd be in class 3 hours/week for 15 weeks = 45 hours, and students commonly need 2 hours of study/preparation time outside of class for each hour in, which means another 90 hours, for a total of ca. 135 hours. Decide how many weeks you'll spend in the tutorial and do the math: if you want to finish in 12 weeks (the fastest allowable schedule, given the limit I set of *one lesson per week*), for example, expect to spend up to 12 hours per week on the work; if you wish to do only one lesson per month, then you'll finish in a year. (*And I should add that if it appears a student is not making adequate progress, I reserve the unrestricted right to terminate the tutorial, refunding payment for any assignments not completed.*)

### **Online resources**

A wealth of information on Juvenal is available online, of course. Many of the most useful resources are referenced in the individual lessons and linked on my Tutorials website at <http://www.wheelockslatin.com/tutorials/juvenal/index.html>).

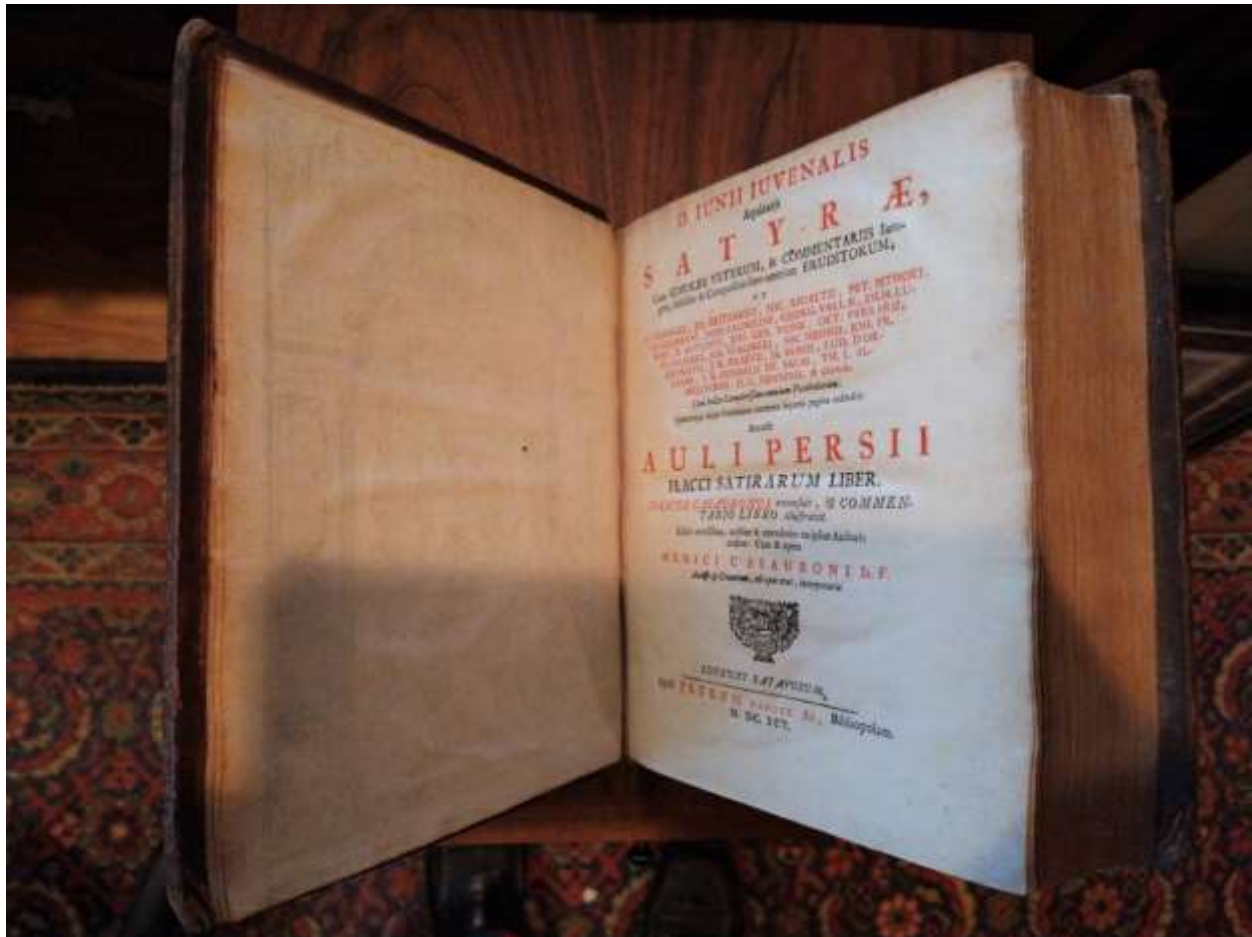
*Difficile est saturam nōn scribere . . .*

*Sī nātūra negat, facit indignātiō versum.*

It's difficult not to write satire . . .

If my natural talent denies, indignation creates my verse. *Juvenal 1.30, 79*

**Nunc incipiāmus—now let's get started!! ☺**



*The Satires of Juvenal and Persius, edited by Meric Casaubon (Pieter van der Aa, Leiden, NETH: 1695); photo of volume in the collection of R. A. LaFleur*