



## **Citizenship: Cato the Younger**

**Course Description:** This course is designed for students who have already had some experience with *Plutarch's Lives* and would like to continue learning while working through new selections that connect with ideas relating to the Roman time period and deepening their understanding of the ancient world. The main focus of this course is the life and character of Cato the Younger, one of Rome's prime examples of integrity, self-control, and moral courage. Students will read Cato's life and consider what it means to remain committed to principle when doing so comes at a personal cost. A few additional in class readings will be read for context including Cicero's "Catiline Oration." Alongside Cato, students are encouraged to study selections from Plutarch's life of Cicero and Cicero's writings from *On Duties* (for students who have have not read) which will bring these ideas to life by exploring Roman views of responsibility, justice, and ethics. Throughout the course, students are asked to consider how personal character, self-discipline, and a commitment to truth shape not only individual lives, but the direction of history itself. *\*Please note this is a semester course (15 weeks) not a typical yearly course.*

**Course Design:** Each week, students participate in guided reading and class discussion lasting approximately 50 minutes each week. Written narrations are assigned outside of class, and should block a 20–30 minute composition time each week, alternating between writing one week and editing the next. For students in grades 6 and above, the goal is five completed compositions per term, with the option of teacher feedback and comments for each assignment.

As time allows, the teacher will instruct on completing charts, and end each class by discussing the character, virtues, and vices revealed in the readings. Additional resources are provided throughout the course in the outside assignment module for students who want to explore further.

Housed on our platform, students will have access to recorded weekly lessons, printable materials, charts, and an interactive forum where students can participate in discussion and view others' responses. Weekly prompts are provided to guide the work; they are optional but highly recommended for 6th grade and up. They can be overseen by the parents or can choose the option of graded compositions for an additional fee. If a parent chooses not to use graded feedback, it is essential that the parent actively oversees the student's narrations and writing process. The course includes graded exams.

**Course expectations:** Each student will need a personal email account to register for our platform. You can register using a parent's email account, but the student will need it to access the course. If registering with more than two children, there will need to be two email accounts, one for each student.



Students are expected to watch the recordings, and should remember to keep up with the charts and compositions for the month, along with editing (if choosing the feedback option).

**High school credits:** The class can be easily added for credit with an Ancient History course at CW or with previous years of Plutarch study. Consider it a quarter credit for the semester. If you desire your student to participate in this high school option, please let me know so I can provide the records you need for your transcript.

**Supplies needed:**

- Canvas account (information sent out in summer- free)
- Citizenship notebook or documents printed (provided by Charlotte's Web - free)
- A Book of Centuries
- Commonplace book (notebook for quotes that stand out to the student.)
- *The Plutarch Project* [Volume 9](#) by Anne White (**Optional**, as all information will be on slides in the course.) Can also access digitally through Ambleside: [Cato the Younger](#)
- [On Duties](#) by Cicero & [Volume 4](#) by Anne White (highly recommend if have not read)
- Optional: [The Book of the Ancient Romans](#) by Dorothy Mills or [The Ancient Roman World](#) (if you own) (A great option to learn more about the culture of the Romans if you have this text and want to dive in a bit.)

Recommended ages: Grades 8-12

Self-paced option (11 months access to course)

**Cost:**

- Self-paced: \$100 for the year per student for auditing the course (recorded lessons) and includes graded exams (optional). Graded compositions (5 for the semester) if interested will be an additional \$50 for the year. (An option for HS credit if the student includes the graded option.)

Instructor: Amy Fluharty

Questions? Email the instructor at: [charlottesmasonresources@gmail.com](mailto:charlottesmasonresources@gmail.com)