

9. THE LIFE AND AFTERLIFE OF CATO THE YOUNGER

Margaret Graver, Dartmouth College

Reading before the class:

1. Plutarch's *Life of Cato the Younger* is a good starting point, to orient yourself to the major events of Cato's life. Feel free to read from any translation you have available. If you are happy with a web-based text, there's the Dryden translation at http://classics.mit.edu/Plutarch/cato_you.html and Clough's at <http://etext.library.adelaide.edu.au/p/plutarch/lives/chapter50.html>. Do be sure you are reading about the younger Cato (though his grandfather's life is very interesting as well!)

Additional possibilities to read before the class:

2. If you'd like to get ahead on reading that we'll be doing during CSI itself, you might read the Cato portions of books 2 and 9 of Lucan's *Civil War (Pharsalia)*. Braund's translation and Widdows' translation are both good bets; the Loeb Classical Library version is fine too.
3. Also to be read later in the week is the first canto of Dante's *Purgatorio*, with its portrait of a surprisingly aged Cato.
4. An excellent historical article, for those who have access to a university library or to the JSTOR database, is Miriam Griffin, "Philosophy, Cato, and Roman Suicide," *Greece and Rome* 33 (1986), pages 64-77.
5. One thing I myself have not yet read (but plan to!) is Matilde Asensi's 2007 novel *The Last Cato*.

Reading during the class

I'll post some additional information about the exact texts we will be reading as soon as I have it put together. For most people, it will be easiest to wait and get these on the first day of class (the total amount is quite manageable even during the busy CSI schedule!)