

Classical Educator's Reading List—Top 55 Books

Created by Dr. Christopher Perrin for ClassicalU.com Subscribers

Introductory Books

[*An Introduction to Classical Education: A Guide for Parents*](#) (C. Perrin)

[“The Lost Tools of Learning”](#) (essay by Dorothy Sayers)

[*Recovering the Lost Tools of Learning*](#) (Douglas Wilson)

[*The Well-Trained Mind: A Guide to Classical Education at Home*](#) (Susan W. Bauer & Jessie Wise)

[*The Liberal Arts Tradition: A Philosophy of Christian Classical Education*](#) (Kevin Clark & Ravi Jain)

[*Norms and Nobility: A Treatise on Education*](#) (David Hicks)

[*Wisdom and Eloquence: A Christian Paradigm for Classical Learning*](#) (Charles Evans & Robert Littlejohn)

[*For the Children's Sake: Foundations of Education for Home and School*](#) (Susan Schaeffer Macaulay)

[*Classical Education: The Movement Sweeping America*](#) (Andrew Kern & Gene Veith)

History of Classical Education

[*The Republic*](#) (Plato)

[*Politics*](#) (Aristotle)

[*Institutes of Oratory \(or The Education of an Orator\)*](#) (Quintillian)

[*Early Christianity and Greek Paideia*](#) (W. Jaeger)

[*A History of Education in Antiquity*](#) (H.I. Marrou)

[*Education in Ancient Rome*](#) (Stanley R. Bonner)

[*The Love of Learning and the Desire for God: A Study of Monastic Culture*](#) (Jean Leclercq)

[*How the Irish Saved Civilization*](#) (Thomas Cahill)

[*The Rise of the Universities*](#) (Charles Homer Haskins)

[*A Thomas Jefferson Education: Teaching a Generation of Leaders for the 21st Century*](#) (Oliver DeMille)

[*The Great Tradition: Classic Readings on What It Means to Be an Educated Human Being*](#) (Richard Gamble, editor)

Modern Education

[*The Abolition of Man: How Education Shapes Man's Sense of Morality*](#) (C.S. Lewis)
[*Left Back: A Century of Battles over School Reform*](#) (Diane Ravitch)
[*The Transformation of the School: Progressivism in American Education, 1876-1957*](#) (Lawrence A. Cremin)
[*The Schools We Need: And Why We Don't Have Them*](#) (E.D. Hirsch Jr.)
[*Reforming Education: The Opening of the American Mind*](#) (Mortimer J. Adler)
[*American Education: A History*](#) (Wayne J. Urban & Jennings L. Wagoner, Jr.)
[*The Global Achievement Gap: Why Even Our Best Schools Don't Teach the New Survival Skills Our Children Need—and What We Can Do about It*](#) (Tony Wagner)

Philosophy of Education

[*The Liberal Arts Tradition: A Philosophy of Christian Classical Education*](#) (Kevin Clark & Ravi Jain)
[*The Abolition of Man: How Education Shapes Man's Sense of Morality*](#) (C.S. Lewis)
[*De Doctrina Christiana \(On Christian Doctrine or On Christian Teaching\)*](#) (Augustine)
[*Great Ideas from the Great Books*](#) (Mortimer Adler)
[*Awakening Wonder: A Classical Guide to Truth, Goodness, and Beauty*](#) (Stephen Turley)
[*Plato: The Great Philosopher-Educator*](#) (David Diener)
[*The Idea of a University*](#) (John Henry Newman)
[*Ideas Have Consequences*](#) (Richard M. Weaver)

Mathematics and Science

[*A Mathematician's Lament*](#) (Paul Lockhart)
[*Measurement*](#) (Paul Lockhart)
[*Innumeracy*](#) (John Allen Paulos)
[*The Divine Challenge: On Matter, Mind, Math, and Meaning*](#) (John Byl)
[*Beauty for Truth's Sake: On the Re-enchantment of Education*](#) (Stratford Caldecott)
[*The Soul of Science: Christian Faith and Natural Philosophy*](#) (Nancy Pearcey & Charles Thaxton)

Virtue and Embodiment

[*The Intellectual Life: Its Spirit, Conditions, Methods*](#) (A.G. Sertillanges)
[*Habits of the Mind: Intellectual Life at a Christian College*](#) (James W. Sire)
[*Desiring the Kingdom: Worship, Worldview, and Cultural Formation*](#) (James K.A. Smith)
[*You Are What You Love: The Spiritual Power of Habit*](#) (James K.A. Smith)
[*Tending the Heart of Virtue: How Classical Stories Awaken a Child's Moral Imagination*](#) (Vigen Guroian)
[*John Milton: Classical Learning and the Progress of Virtue*](#) (Grant Horner)

Scholé and Contemplation

[*Only the Lover Sings: Art and Contemplation*](#) (Josef Pieper)

[*Leisure: The Basis of Culture*](#) (Josef Pieper)

[*Teaching from Rest: A Homeschooler's Guide to Unshakable Peace*](#) (Sarah Mackenzie)

[*Charlotte Mason's Original Homeschooling Series: Home Education \(vol. 1\)*](#) (Charlotte Mason)

Pedagogy, Art of Teaching

[*De Doctrina Christiana \(On Christian Doctrine or On Christian Teaching\)*](#) (Augustine)

[*The Art of Teaching*](#) (Gilbert Highet)

[*Begin Here: The Forgotten Conditions of Teaching and Learning*](#) (Jacques Barzun)

[*The Seven Laws of Teaching*](#) (John Milton Gregory)

[*Why Students Don't Like School: A Cognitive Scientist Answers Questions about How the Mind Works and What It Means for the Classroom*](#) (Daniel T. Willingham)

[*Poetic Knowledge: The Recovery of Education*](#) (James Taylor)

[*Socratic Circles: Fostering Critical and Creative Thinking in Middle and High School*](#) (Matt Copeland)

[*Teach Like a Champion: Techniques That Put Students on the Path to College*](#) (Doug Lemov)

Dr. Perrin's Top 10 List: 101 Version

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