The Classical Educator’s Reading List (Top 55 Books)
Created by Dr. Christopher A. Perrin for ClassicalU.com subscribers

Note: A List Featuring Book Cover Images Follows Below

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 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)
- 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 (Stanely 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: 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 & Science
• *A Mathematician’s Lament* (Paul Lockart)
• *Measurement* (Paul Lockart)
• *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 Gurioian)
• *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 Unshakeable 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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Introductory Books

History of Classical Education
History of Classical Education

Modern Education
Philosophy of Education

Philosophy of Classical Education
Mathematics & Science

Virtue and Embodiment
Scholé and Contemplation

Pedagogy, Art of Teaching
Top Ten List-101 Version

Philosophy
- Introduction to Classical Education
- Liberal Arts Tradition
- Norms & Nobility

History
- The Great Tradition
- How the Irish Saved Civilization
- How Augustus Made Rome
- Desiring the Kingdom
- Leisure: The Basis of Culture

Math
- Mathematics's Common
- The Seven Laws of Teaching

Modern Education
- The Abolition of Man
- The Schools We Need & How We Don't Have Them
- A Century of Battles Over School Reform

Virtue
- Only the Lower Things: Art and Contemplation
- Desiring the Kingdom
- The Christian Teaching

Contemplation
- John Milton Gregory

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Lifetime Reading Plan

- Harvard Classics
- Britannica Great Books Set
- Loeb Library