

LATN3433B: Cicero: Prof. Gesine Manuwald

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This course provides an introduction to Cicero as a politician and orator as well as to key elements in the history and political life of the Roman Republic, by means of a close look at Cicero's writings referring to his consular year. The course will focus on reading (in the original Latin) a group of speeches, the four Catilinarian Orations, paying particular attention to Cicero's argument and political strategy and their adaptation in speeches on similar topics given before different bodies. There will be supplementary reading in English of some of Cicero's letters, of excerpts from other speeches and of references to Cicero's epic about his consulship (available on Moodle). This will allow for discussion of issues such as aims and methods of Cicero's shaping of his consular persona, his presentation of 'historical facts', his view of the Roman res publica or the possible reasons for the publication of these speeches and their later collection in a corpus.

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