



Oide

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Supporting the Professional
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Oide Senior Cycle Classical Studies Collaborative





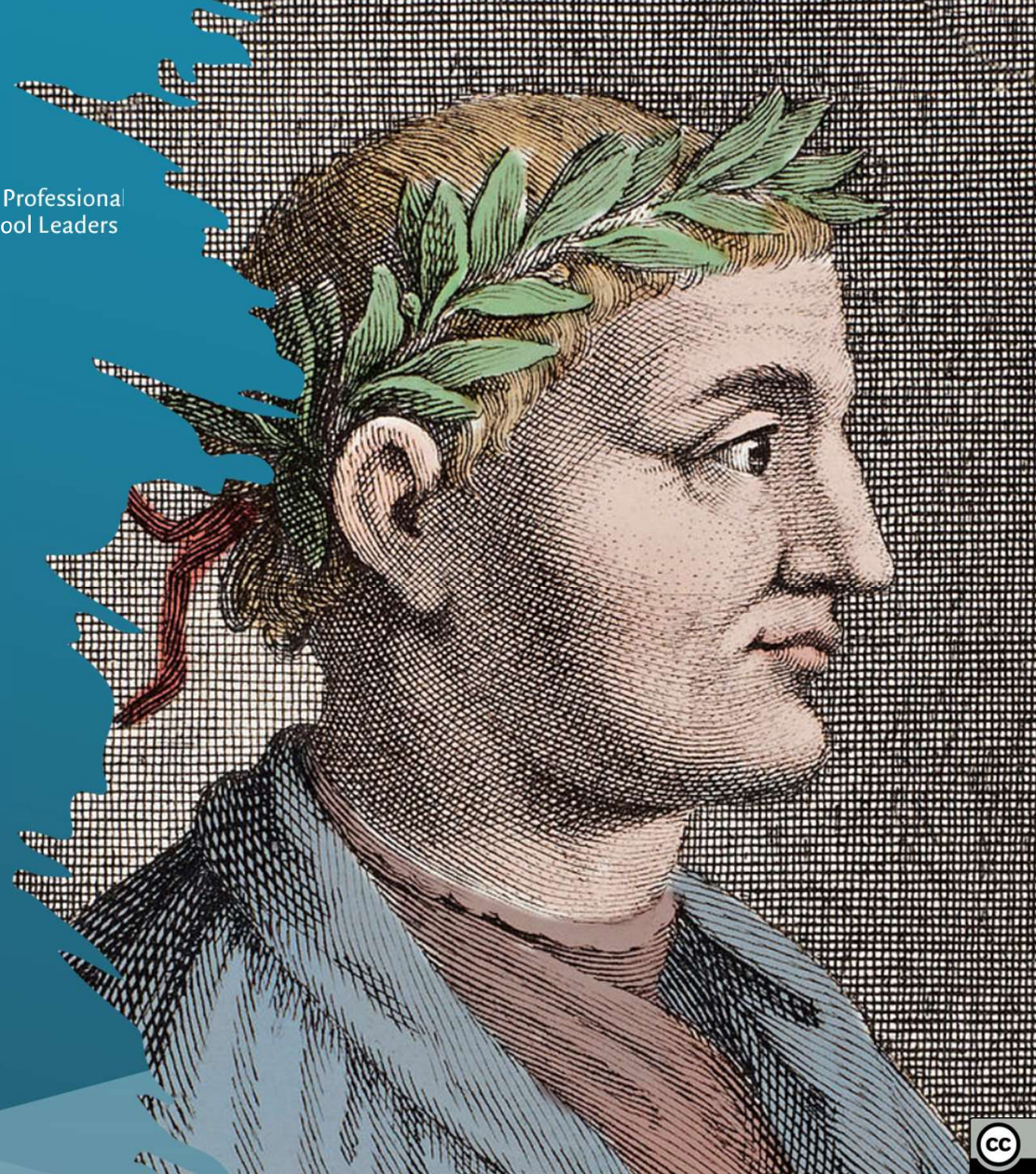
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Carpe Diem!

An exploration into the
poetry of Horace



Philosophical ideas about mortality and living well



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4.13. Examine what constitutes ‘living well’ when faced with the inevitability of death according to Socrates as depicted in Plato’s *Crito* and Horace in the *Odes* and *Epodes*.

4.14. Explore how the relationship between human decision and responsibility on the one hand and divine will and fate on the other is viewed by Socrates as depicted in Plato’s *Crito* and Horace in the *Odes* and *Epodes*.

4.15. Examine how their own views about what it means to live well relate to the ideas of Socrates as depicted in Plato’s *Crito* and Horace in the *Odes* and *Epodes*.

Introducing philosophy




Horace



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Horace



Carpe diem! Rejoice while you are alive; enjoy the day; live life to the fullest; make the most of what you have. It is later than you think.

AZ QUOTES

Initial stimulus material



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Horace: biography

In 65 B.C., Horace was born in the region of Samnium in Southern Italy.

Horace's father was a libertus or freedman. He had probably been enslaved during the Social War in 80 B.C. – a war over full Roman citizenship for all of Rome's Italian allies.

Horace had a close relationship with his father, who spent a lot of money to ensure his son had a good education in Rome.

He even wrote a poem as tribute to his father (Horace. The Satires. Book I: Satire VI).



Horace: biography

As a young adult, Horace left Rome and headed for Athens, Greece.

Here he studied philosophy in Plato's Academy after Plato was long deceased.

In Horace's day the primary philosophers teaching there would have been Epicureans and Stoics.



Carpe Diem



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Carpe Diem – seize the day – is a quote from Horace and a common phrase today. However, it is also misinterpreted too.

What you might consider *Carpe Diem* is to seize any opportunity no matter what it is. However, it is actually more complex than that, because Horace also supports the idea of a quiet, simple life.

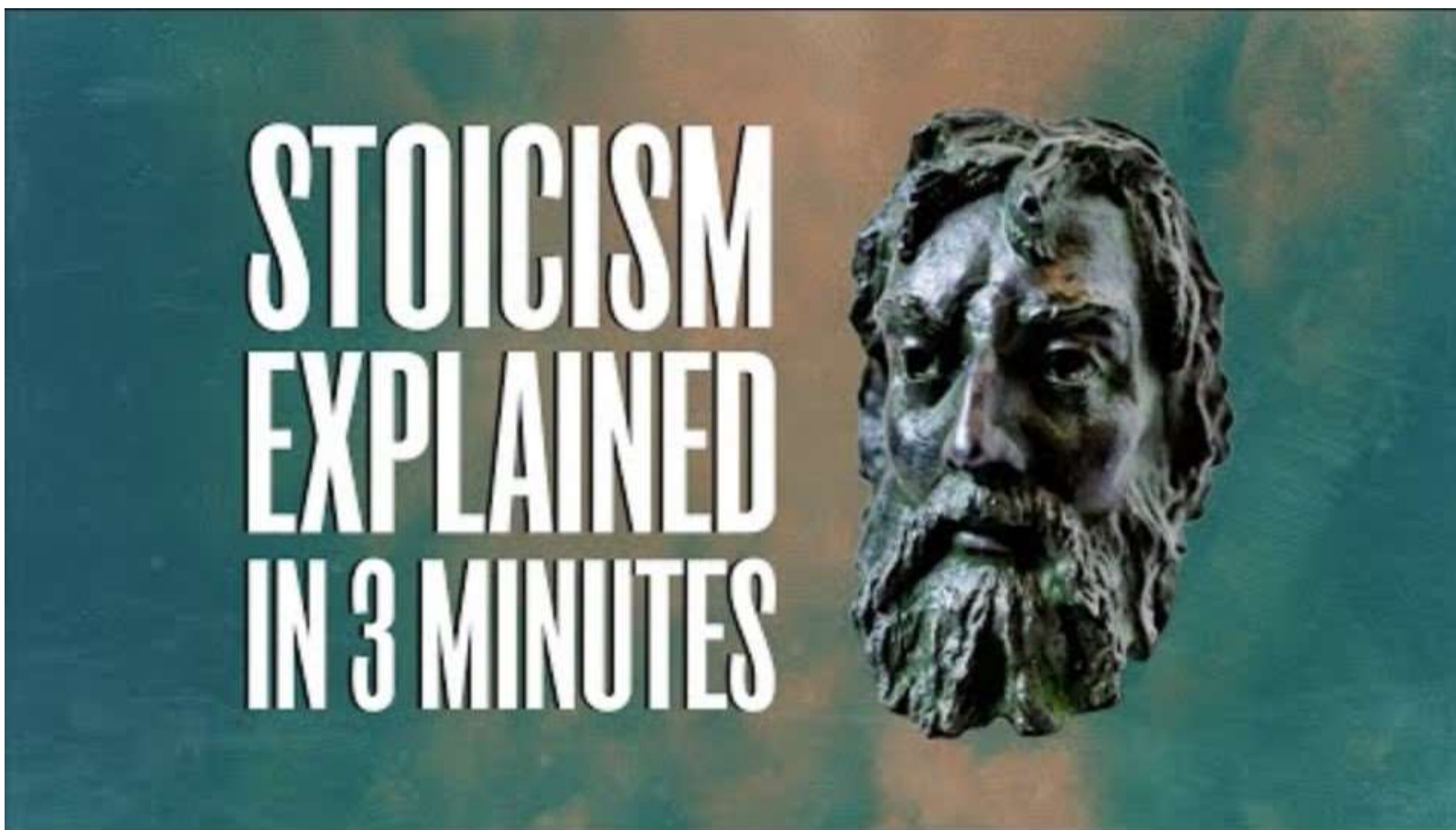
This is because the two most popular philosophical schools of thought at the time were Epicureanism and stoicism. The latter is probably the one that had the bigger influence on Horace.



Stoicism



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Cross-curricular opportunities

On First Looking into Chapman's Homer

BY JOHN KEATS

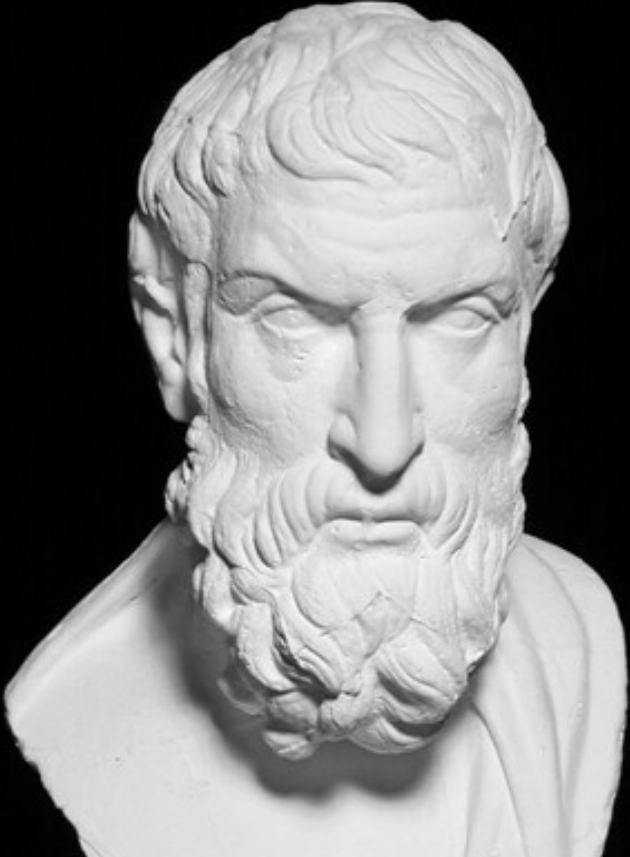
Much have I travell'd in the realms of gold,
And many goodly states and kingdoms seen;
Round many western islands have I been
Which bards in fealty to Apollo hold.
Oft of one wide expanse had I been told
That deep-brow'd Homer ruled as his demesne;
Yet did I never breathe its pure serene
Till I heard Chapman speak out loud and bold:
Then felt I like some watcher of the skies
When a new planet swims into his ken;
Or like stout Cortez when with eagle eyes
He star'd at the Pacific—and all his men
Look'd at each other with a wild surmise—
Silent, upon a peak in Darien.



Epicureanism



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Is God willing to prevent evil,
but not able?
Then he is not omnipotent.
Is he able, but not willing?
Then he is malevolent.
Is he both able and willing?
Then whence cometh evil?
Is he neither able nor willing?
Then why call him God?

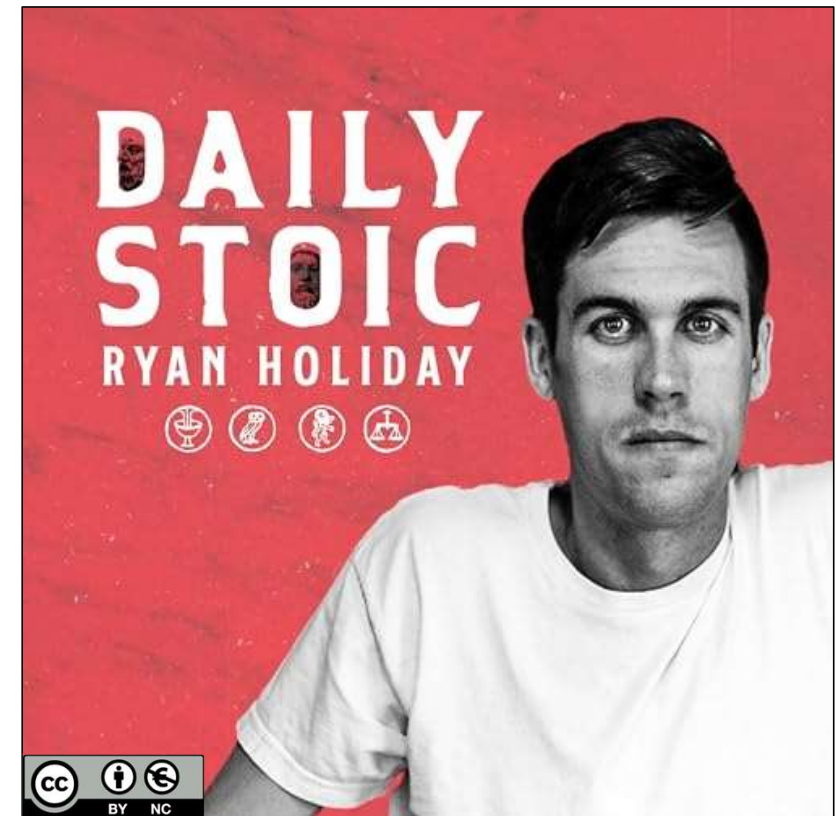
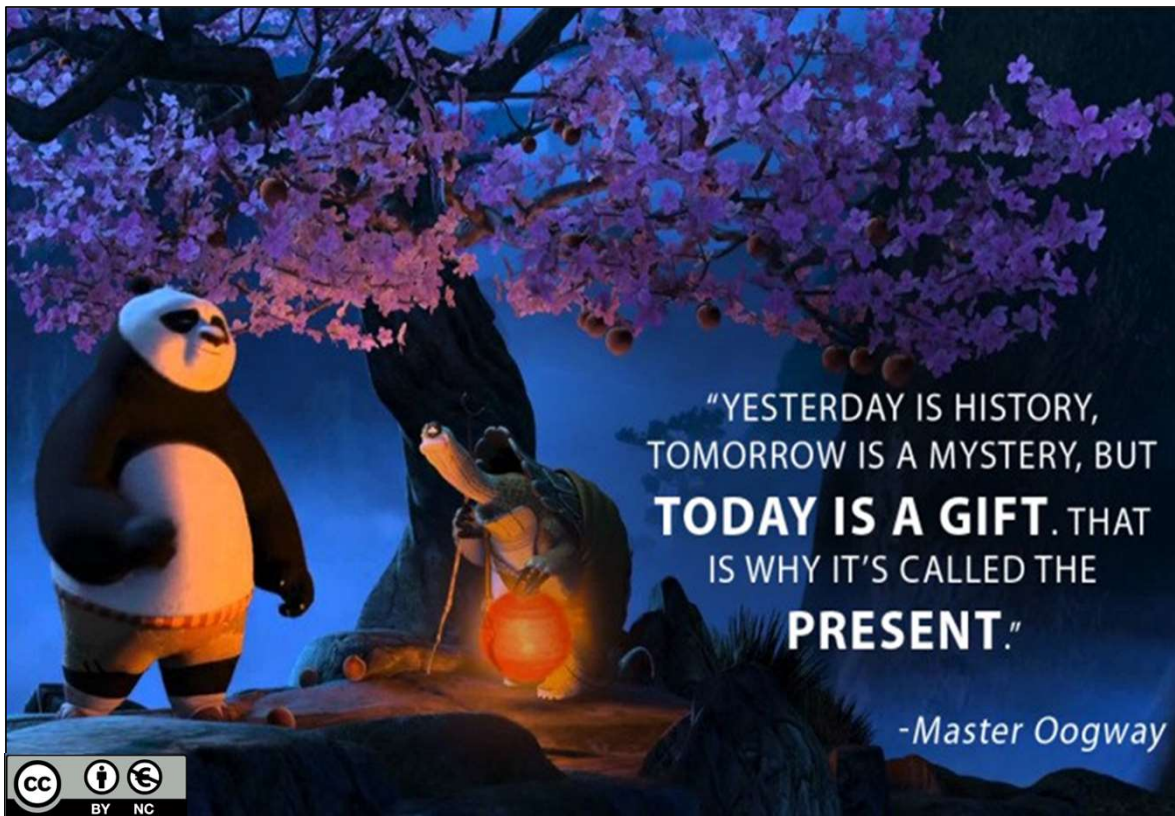
~ Epicurus

@pinkheretic

Making connections



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Horace's views



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“

Wisdom is not wisdom when
it is derived from books
alone.

—
HORACE

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Death is inevitable.

The shortness of life – time is fleeting.

Enjoy the present hour – Carpe Diem.

The simple/quiet life is best.

Friendship is important to a happy life.

Living well

Gather ye Rosebuds

Enjoy The Present Hour

We All Must Die

Cease to Mourn

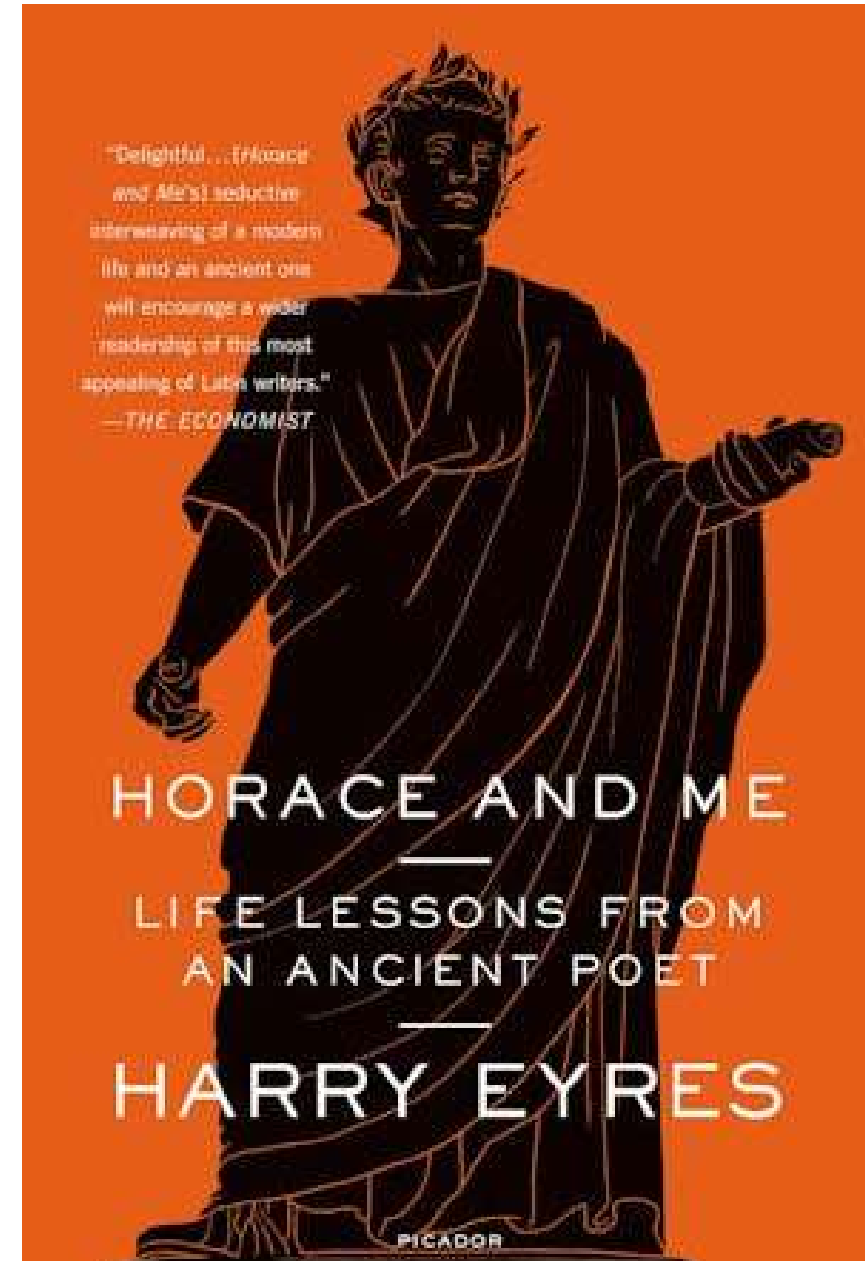
The Good Man Need Fear Nothing

Enjoy Your Possession While They Are Yours

Ode to Spring

A Quiet Life

Rustic Joys



Human will vs divine fate



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“

Adversity has the effect of eliciting talents which, in prosperous circumstances, would have lain dormant.

—
HORACE

Gather ye Rosebuds

Enjoy The Present Hour

Enjoy Your Possession While
They Are Yours

Ode to Spring