

**WEEK FOURTEEN:**  
**Personal Enemies: Invective**

**Tuesday: *Invectivae*: Cicero and Sallust; Catiline II: Cicero's *Second Catilinarian***

For Tuesday, we will turn to the topic of personal enemies. We will read two examples of *invectiva*, the origin of our word “invective.” This was a type of speech, report, or letter written as a personal attack against one’s opponent. The target is usually not a military enemy, but rather a political, social, or literary rival. Invective was a mode of characterization often employed in speeches. Texts like the *invectivae* we will read, however, are actually rhetorical training exercises composed by students who were learning the art of public speaking. A common educational tool in the ancient world was to have a student compose or perform a speech on a historical or literary topic, putting themselves in the shoes of a famous figure and answering some question (for instance, “Should Hannibal have marched on the city of Rome after Cannae?” was a popular topic, to judge from Juvenal’s satirization of the rhetorical exercise: *Sat.* 10.147-67). Some really good examples of these kinds of rhetorical games were written down and since they were composed from the perspective of a famous figure, they were often attributed to these famous authors later on in the manuscript tradition. The two examples we will read were attributed (falsely) to Sallust, who attacks Cicero, and Cicero, who “responds” by attacking Sallust. Pay close attention to the ways that the two figures attack each other in these two rhetorical set pieces, written as though they are delivered in the Senate.

We will also read Cicero’s *Second Catilinarian*, a speech he gives before the popular assembly after Catiline had fled Rome. There are a series of four speeches that Cicero offered during his efforts to thwart Catiline, and these are known as the “Catilinarians.” In Cicero’s *First Catilinarian*—which is also worth a read—he shamed Catiline, present in a meeting of the Senate, to leave the city (cf. Sallust *BC*, ch. 31). Then, in the *Second Catilinarian*, which we are reading, Cicero explains to the people the illegality of Catiline’s actions and tries to convince them of the danger that Catiline poses to the state. After Cicero got the evidence he needed to condemn the conspirators left in Rome and capturing them, he speaks before the people claiming that they can feel safe as he has saved them from the “revolutionaries” (*Third Catilinarian*). Cicero’s final speech on the matter (*Fourth Catilinarian*) comes at the start of the meeting of the Senate at which they debated the fate of the captured conspirators (cf. Sallust *BC* 50-53). Cicero was known as one of the top orators of his day, perhaps second only to Caesar. Cicero understood the power of language and knew how to use it to his advantage.

**Assignment:**

- ***Invectivae*: Pseudo-Sallust, *Invectiva in Ciceronem*** (= Shackleton Bailey trans., pp. 362-71-odd pages only); **Pseudo-Cicero, *Invectiva in Sallustium*** (= Shackleton Bailey trans., 372-391 odd pages only)
- **Catiline II: Cicero, *Second Catilinarian*** (= Macdonald trans., pp. 68-99-odd pages only)

**Reading Questions:**

- What do Pseudo-Sallust and Pseudo-Cicero use to attack each other? How do they characterize each other and what kinds of things do they use in their polemics?

- To what/to whom do they compare each other? What are the problems with the behaviors described for each?
- How do the *invectivae* compare to each other? Are there differences in tone, content, focus, style?
- How does Cicero characterize Catiline and his followers in his speech to the Roman people? To what/to whom does he compare the conspirators?
- What impression do Cicero's words leave? How would you feel if you had heard this speech in its original performance?
- What does Cicero suggest as the source(s) of Catiline's faults?
- How does Cicero explain the reasons held by those who joined Catiline in his endeavors?
- How does Cicero describe his own actions in stopping the conspiracy? How do these compare to those of the conspirators?

**People, Terms, Events and Concepts, to know from Week Fourteen:**

<i>invectiva</i>	"Romulus of Arpinum"
Pseudo-Sallust	Crassus' House
<i>Invectiva in Ciceronem</i>	Catilinarian Orations
Pseudo-Cicero	<i>Second Catilinarian</i>
<i>Invectiva in Sallustium</i>	"Gladiatorial Schools"
M. Tullius Cicero	Senate-House
Gaius Sallustius Cripus	Temple of Jupiter Stator
Cicero's Wife (Terentia) and Daughter (Tullia)	Manlius
Cicero's Consulship	Types of Revolutionaries
	"The Last (Sixth) Group"