



CERTIFIED BITCOIN ADVISOR™

Purpose: To provide a comprehensive, principled understanding of Bitcoin — spanning its economic roots, cryptographic design, network architecture, incentive structure, and civilizational implications.

The goal is not to produce coders or economists, but well-rounded professionals who understand *why Bitcoin matters, how it works, and what it represents*.

Module 1: Sound Money & Monetary History

Inspired by: Saifedean Ammous, Jeff Booth, Parker Lewis

Core Theme:

Before understanding Bitcoin, one must understand *money* — its evolution, corruption, and rebirth through digital scarcity.

Learning Objectives

- Explain the properties of sound money and how fiat violates them.
- Describe key historical failures of unsound monetary systems (Weimar, Zimbabwe, 1971 dollar decoupling).
- Connect Austrian economic principles (Mises, Hayek) to Bitcoin's monetary design.
- Understand inflation as theft of time and productivity.

Recommended Readings

- *The Bitcoin Standard* – Saifedean Ammous (Ch. 1–7)
- *When Money Dies* – Adam Fergusson
- *Gradually, Then Suddenly* – Parker Lewis essays
- *The Price of Tomorrow* – Jeff Booth

Discussion Prompts

- How does Bitcoin restore time preference to a productive equilibrium?



- Why does fiat incentivize short-term thinking?

Sample Questions

- Name the six attributes of sound money and explain how Bitcoin fulfills each.
- Describe the Cantillon Effect and its implications for wealth inequality.
- How does the 1971 end of the gold standard relate to Bitcoin's emergence?

Module 2: Cryptography & the Cypherpunk Ethos

Core Theme:

Bitcoin emerged from decades of cryptographic innovation and ideological resistance to centralized control.

Learning Objectives

- Identify the key cryptographic primitives enabling Bitcoin (hash functions, digital signatures, proof-of-work).
- Summarize contributions by Hashcash, b-money, and Reusable Proofs of Work.
- Understand privacy, censorship-resistance, and open-source collaboration as ethical foundations.
- Articulate why “Don’t trust, verify” is more than a slogan.

Recommended Readings

- *Bitcoin: A Peer-to-Peer Electronic Cash System* – Satoshi Nakamoto
- *Hashcash Whitepaper* – Adam Back (2002)
- *A Cypherpunk’s Manifesto* – Eric Hughes
- *Mastering Bitcoin* – Andreas Antonopoulos (Ch. 1–4)

Discussion Prompts

- Why did cryptographers, not economists, create Bitcoin?
- How does proof-of-work replace legal enforcement with thermodynamic cost?

Sample Exam Questions

1. Explain why Bitcoin’s difficulty adjustment is essential to its decentralization.
2. Compare Bitcoin’s security assumptions with those of fiat settlement systems.
3. What moral philosophy underpins the Cypherpunk movement?

Module 3: Network Architecture & Self-Custody



Inspired by: Andreas Antonopoulos, Hal Finney, Adam Back

Core Theme:

Bitcoin empowers individuals to be the network — validating, transacting, and securing value without intermediaries.

Learning Objectives

- Explain how nodes, miners, and wallets interact to enforce consensus.
- Differentiate between SPV and full-node verification.
- Demonstrate best practices for key management, multi-sig, and inheritance planning.
- Understand why self-custody is the foundation of Bitcoin's ethical system.

Recommended Readings

- Mastering Bitcoin – Antonopoulos (Ch. 5–10)
- Bitcoin Optech Guides (selected articles on custody and PSBTs)
- Unchained Capital Whitepaper: Custody in the Age of Bitcoin
- Casa Estate Planning Guide

Discussion Prompts

- Why does custody = trust in the Bitcoin context?
- What trade-offs exist between convenience and sovereignty?

Sample Exam Questions

1. Explain the statement “Not your keys, not your coins.”
2. Describe how multi-signature setups can support both security and inheritance.
3. What is the difference between running a node and mining Bitcoin?

Module 5: Time Preference & Civilizational Impact

Inspired by: Saifedean Ammous, Parker Lewis, Jeff Booth, Michael Saylor

Core Theme:

Bitcoin isn't just a financial network — it's a societal mirror reflecting humanity's relationship to time, trust, and value.

Learning Objectives

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- Define “time preference” and explain how fiat raises it.
- Connect deflationary monetary systems to innovation and stability.
- Explore Bitcoin as a moral and civilizational corrective mechanism.
- Communicate Bitcoin’s value in human, not just financial, terms.

Recommended Readings

- *The Fiat Standard* – Saifedean Ammous
- *The Price of Tomorrow* – Jeff Booth
- *Saylor’s Hope.com & MicroStrategy Keynotes*
- *Parker Lewis – “Bitcoin is Not Too Volatile”*

Discussion Prompts

- How does Bitcoin re-align human behavior with long-term responsibility?
- What cultural and moral shifts could emerge from a Bitcoin standard?

Sample Exam Questions

1. Define “time preference” and explain how Bitcoin lowers it.
2. Describe how deflation can be productive in a Bitcoin economy.
3. In what ways does Bitcoin restore trust between individuals and institutions?