

Humanities Department

Required and Recommended Summer Reading

- Advanced Placement Courses: Only AP courses have required summer reading. Some also have some recommended titles which are purely optional.
- Regular Economics and American Studies also have recommended reading and are listed after the AP courses.

American Studies with APUSH

Required summer reading and viewing

From Sea to Shining Sea - by James Alexander Thom ISBN – 0-345-33451-5 - \$7.99
www.amazon.com, available elsewhere as well)

The Video – *The Crossing*

Recommended viewing:

Last of the Mohicans

The Natural

The Cowboys

Rebel without a cause

Dave

American Studies with APLAC

Required summer reading

The Outliers by Malcolm Gladwell.

Recommended reading:

Issues of the *New Yorker* and *Atlantic Monthly* magazines

AP Government:

Required summer reading:

Democracy in America - by de Tocqueville

The Communist Manifesto - by Karl Marx

AP English Literature:

Required summer reading:

Billy Budd, Sailor - by Herman Melville (**only** the Billy Budd story, **not** Melville's other short stories often included in the same volume-use the Oxford University Press edition chosen for class – ISBN 0-19-283903-9)

Macbeth and *Othello* - by Shakespeare—any edition will do)

Recommended summer reading:

Jane Eyre - by Charlotte Bronte

Pride and Prejudice - by Jane Austen

A Prayer for Owen Meany - by John Irving

Till We Have Faces - by C. S. Lewis

The Turn of the Screw - by Henry James

Novels by Charles Dickens, Elizabeth Gaskell, Thomas Hardy, William Faulkner, Toni Morrison, Ernest Hemingway, J. R. R. Tolkien, Patrick O'Brian (*Master and Commander*) Oscar Wilde

AP Economics:

Required summer reading and major break reading (NOTE: Choose one to read this summer and you will read the other two over winter and spring breaks)

Freakonomics -- Steven Levitt;

A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything

The Fatal Equilibrium - Marshall Jevons

Fatal Equilibrium is a science fiction novel. This book is definitely written by an economist about economists.

Atlas Shrugged - Ayn Rand

AP European History

Required summer reading:

The Prince - Machiavelli

The Ghost Map - Steven Johnson

Recommended reading:

A number of wonderful books could help you with this class: a few recommended "primary" texts, and then a few good history texts. This is merely a browsing list. Any or all of these selections will help you out next year, as well as being fun to read. .

Primary source recommendations:

Cervantes, *Don Quixote*

Sir Thomas More, *Utopia*

Voltaire, *Candide*

Christopher Marlowe, *Dr Faustus*

Anything by Shakespeare (*Hamlet* if nothing else)

Jonathan Swift, *Gulliver's Travels* (esp Book I)

Milton, *Paradise Lost* (Books I and II)

Dickens, *A Christmas Carol*, *Hard Times*, *Oliver Twist*

Marx and Engels, *The Communist Manifesto*

Aldous Huxley, *Brave New World*

Remarque, *All Quiet on the Western Front*

Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein*

Emily Bronte, *Wuthering Heights*

Robert Louis Stevenson, *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*

Elie Wiesel, *Night*
PD James, *Children of Men*
Doris Lessing, *The Grass Is Singing*
Primo Levi, *If This Is A Man*
George Orwell, *1984*
Albert Camus, *The Stranger, The Plague*
Andre Gide, *Tiger at the Gates ; Lafcadio's Adventures*

Secondary source recommendations (readable histories):

Natalie Davis, *The Return of Martin Guerre; Society and Culture in Early Modern France*
Darnton, *The Great Cat Massacre*
Eric Hobsbawn, *The Age of Revolution*
Crane Brinton, *The Anatomy of Revolution*
Adam Hochschild, *King Leopold's Ghost*
Sarah Wise, *The Italian Boy: A Tale of Murder and Body-Snatching in 19th Century London*
AJP Taylor, *The Causes of World War II*
Paul Johnson, *Modern Times*
Francis Fukuyama, *The End of History and the Last Man*

Recommended reading for regular courses:

American Studies

Travels with Charley: In Search of America – by John Steinbeck

The Killer Angels - by Michael Shaara

The House on Mango Street - by Sandra Cisneros

The Man in the Gray Flannel Suit - by Sloan Wilson

Economics:

Rich Dad Poor Dad - by Robert Kiyosaki

Freakonomics by Steven Levitt

The Humanities Department

Reading to enjoy, to challenge, to explore—Suggestions from Humanities teachers for students and adults:

The Demon Under the Microscope: From Battlefield Hospitals to Nazi Labs, One Doctor's Heroic Search for the World's First Miracle Drug - by Thomas Hager

An excellent book for lovers of history or science, this non-fiction book explores the invention of the world's first antibiotic.

Accessible for lovers of non-fiction, challenging for others...

Mr. Pip - by Lloyd Jones

Short listed for the prestigious Booker Prize, *Mr. Pip* is an extraordinary recent novel by the New Zealander Lloyd Jones that chronicles the coming-of-age of a young Papua New Guinean woman who relies improbably on Charles Dickens' *Great Expectations* for guidance. The novel, about the power of reading and teaching to shape lives across cultures, will appeal to students and parents alike.

On the Road – by Jack Kerouac

The classic title from the beat generation takes readers on a journey of self discovery. Some call it the "Hippie Bible", but it is also a story that captures the spirit of the human journey.

Accessible

Flatland – by Edmund A. Abbott

The short creative novella explores a life in geometrical, two dimensional world and challenges paradigms of the perception of reality.

Accessible

The Power of One - by Bryce Courtenay

Powerfully written, Courtenay's characters are believable, so much so that the reader wishes too that they were a South African boxer.

Accessible

Precious Bodily Fluids, - by Charles Waterstreet

What was it like growing up in Australia in the 1950s?

Accessible

The Kite Runner - by Khaled Hosseini

A recent best seller, Hosseini captures the plight of everyday life in Afghanistan in today's volatile world.

Accessible

This Side of Paradise- by F. Scott Fitzgerald

This is a thinly veiled autobiography by F. Scott Fitzgerald about his Princeton days and the murky water of his early 20's. Hobey Baker, the John Heisman of college hockey, also makes a cameo appearance in the book. The book is a prototypical 20th century modernist work with Fitzgerald's experimentation in form throughout.

Into Thin Air – by Jon Krakauer

This book is an intense journey up Mount Everest with a newly founded expedition team that is hurdling towards disaster. It is a true account of the 1996 Everest tragedy.

Men Without Women – by Ernest Hemingway

This is a great introduction to Ernest Hemingway through an odd assortment of characters from bull fighters to boxers.

Ladies No. 1 Detective Agency – by Alexander McCall Smith

Set in Botswana, Africa, this is the first of a series of mysteries that with humor and insight celebrate resilience, human foibles, and various forms of love in a changing world through quirky, memorable characters.

Accessible

Traitor to His Class—The Privileged Life and Radical Presidency of Franklin Delano Roosevelt - by H. W. Brands.

A sweeping biography of the man generally considered the greatest president of the 20th century, it sheds new light on FDR's willingness to champion the concerns of the poor and disenfranchised.

How Lincoln Learned to Read—Twelve Great Americans and the Education That Made Them -by Daniel Wolff.

An engaging and provocative history of American ideas told through the educations (both personal and out of school) of 12 great figures, from Benjamin Franklin to Elvis Presley.

Zen in the Art of Archery—by Eugen Herrigel.

Though this book can be read in an afternoon, it accesses lifetimes of ritualized discipline and artistry. It's a wonderful little book that's a breeze to read.

Ishmael –by Daniel Quinn.

An adventure of the mind and spirit through the heart of modern society.

The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society - by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows

A wonderful epistolary about the NAZI occupation in the channel Islands, suitable for adults and junior/senior students.