

Reading remains one of life's great pleasures and an important means of broadening our horizons of knowledge and experience. This list includes books of diverse cultural perspectives for readers with varying interests and abilities. Enjoy your reading discoveries. For English class, all students must read **FOUR** books, **two or three** of which are required. The other choices from the list are left to you. Please be ready to discuss your reading early in the fall. **Bring the required reading books with you when you return.** Electronic texts are permissible. If, for any reason, you cannot obtain the required book online or from your local bookstore or library, [please call](mailto:caustin@deerfield.edu) Deerfield's Campus Store (Hitchcock House) at 413-774-1513 to arrange a shipment. [You can also email](mailto:caustin@deerfield.edu) caustin@deerfield.edu. He will help you resolve the difficulty.

Community required read
Departmental required read

Central Questions:
 Classics in Translation
 Future Shock:
 Jazz Age and Lost Generation:
 Mystery, Madness and Lies:
 New York Stories
 Poetry Now:
 Slavery's Literary Legacy:

Gyasi, Yaa **Homegoing**
 O'Brien, Tim. **The Things They Carried**

Smith, Zadie. **White Teeth**
 Gyasi, Yaa **Homegoing**
 Eggers, David. **The Circle**
 Remarque, Erich Maria. **All Quiet on the Western Front**
 Christie, Agatha. **Witness for the Prosecution & Other Stories**
 Gyasi, Yaa **Homegoing**
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Adichie, Chimamanda. **Half of a Yellow Sun** In post-colonial Nigeria, three children of different backgrounds experience the ravages of civil war and relief of union.

Alexie, Sherman. **Indian Killer** An Indian serial killer seeking retribution for the white man's crimes against his people also must come to terms with his own past.

Best, Joel. **Damned Lies and Statistics: Untangling Numbers from the Media, Politicians, and Activists** Resist the spin doctors. (Recommended for statisticians)

Brooks, Geraldine. **The People of the Book** Follow the fascinating tale of a book that preserves a cultural history under threats.

Burgess, Anthony. **A Clockwork Orange** Alex, the teenager from Hell, having committed unspeakable mayhem in a bleak, futuristic England, is 'programmed' by the state to sin no more.

Camus, Albert. **The Plague** Still timely, this existential novel studies the human condition and its meaning in the face of a deadly virus that sweeps through Algiers.

Carey, Peter. **A Long Way Home** Travel the Australian continent with the contestants in a rollicking off-road race.

Cleave, Chris. **Everyone Brave is Forgiven** Stories of intimate friendships and loves can still emerge when countries engage in great tests like World War II.

Cole, K.C. **The Universe and The Teacup: The Mathematics of Truth and Beauty** Explore links between mathematics and a variety of social, political, and scientific issues. (Recommended for FST)

Danticat, Edwidge. **The Dew Breaker** A Haitian woman traveling to Florida from New York with her father learns the truth about his life and work in Haiti under the Duvalier dictatorship.

Davies, Peter Ho. **The Fortunes** Chinese American families strive to repair lives fractured or frayed by their immigrant experiences.

Ellison, Ralph. **Invisible Man** Nameless, yet real, Ellison's African-American protagonist journeys from the rural South to Harlem, discovering himself and his invisibility.

Finnegan, William. **Barbarian Days** Surf your way around the world and toward a writing life.

Gattis, Ryan. **All Involved** Travel through L.A. in the chaos and heartbreak following the Rodney King trial in 1992.

Habila, Helon. **Oil on Water** Learn how multinational corporations extract more than oil reserves from post-colonial African societies.

Hill, Nathan. **The Nix** This surreal social satire targets American cultural trends from the 1960s hippies to the 2017 hipsters.

Hobbs, Jeff. **The Short and Tragic Life of Robert Peace** An Ivy League student's shining path of success ends in dark corners.

Howarth, Paul. **Only Killers and Thieves** If you enjoy westerns, you may find this tale of the Australian outback fascinating.

Ishiguro, Kazuo. **Remains of the Day** A beautifully realized chronicle of the decline of the British class system in the late twentieth century, as seen through the eyes of a loyal butler.

Keegan, Marina. **The Opposite of Loneliness: Essays and Stories** Keegan's life was short on time but long on wisdom.

Klay, Phil. **Redeployment** Read these award-winning stories to discover what modern soldiers truly face.

Kolbert, Elizabeth. **The Sixth Extinction** Kolbert's reporting may alter the way you see climate change.

Krakauer, Jon. **Missoula** A journalist exposes the truth about the manner in which one college handled sexual assaults on campus.

Levy, Andrea. **Small Island** In the wake of World War II, Jamaicans immigrate to Great Britain only to find the empire for which they fought does not easily embrace newcomers.

Macdonald, Helen. **H is for Hawk** Wrought by grief after the death of her father, a woman finds relief in the fierce grace of a goshawk.

McCann, Colum. **Let the Great World Spin** Philippe Petit's high-wire walk between the Twin Towers binds the lives of an unlikely set of New Yorkers.

McDougall, Christopher. **Born to Run** Discover the secrets of long-distance running from the reclusive Tarahumara Indians of Mexico's deadly Copper Canyons.

McGuire, Ian. **The North Water** Will the crew of a whaling ship lose their humanity on an endless hunt for the precious cargo-whale oil?

Minot, Susan. **Thirty Girls** The fate of girls captured by Joseph Kony in Africa spurs an investigation by an American journalist who has seemingly lost direction in her life.

Nelson, Maggie. **The Argonauts** One of America's finest prose writers confronts gender through literature, philosophy, and personal narrative.

Okparanta, Chinelo. **Happiness, Like Water** Whether in their native Nigeria or new homes in the United States, these strong men and women draw on their cultural bonds.

Ozeiki, Ruth. **Tale for the Time Being** Two lives, separated by the vast Pacific Ocean, intertwine through history and imagination.

Rotner Sakamoto, Pamela. **Midnight in Broad Daylight** Follow the members of a Japanese-American family caught on two sides of the Pacific during WW II as they struggle to make sense of duty, honor, and patriotism.

Savich, Zach. **Diving Makes the Water Deep** A young poet's memoir of illness and poetry is full of wisdom and life.

Shamsie, Kamila. **Burnt Shadows** The effects of the partition of India reverberate around the world and climax in the aftermath of 9/11.

Smith, Dominic. **The Last Painting of Sara de Vos** Might a valuable Dutch painting actually be the work of an expert forger? An art historian answers that question.

Smith, Zadie. **On Beauty** Race, class, and gender clash on a college campus where life's complications—and beauty—ultimately emerge. A nice companion to E.M. Forster's **Howards End**.

Solnit, Rebecca. **Men Explain Things to Me** Brilliant and sometimes comic essays on the gender wars.

Tolkin, Michael. **NK3** A weaponized microbe deletes human identity. Who or what recovers?

Urea, Luís Alberto. **The House of Broken Angels** A Mexican-American family celebrates its history during a memorable weekend.

Vaillant, John. **Jaguar's Children** An illegal border crossing becomes an odyssey of risks and unexpected realizations.

Vance, J.D. **Hillbilly Elegy** This memoir about the forgotten men and women of rural America may alter your perspective about class in America.

Vanhoecker, Mark. **Skyfaring: A Pilot's Journey** From the cockpit of a jumbo jet at 36,000 feet, experience the world.

Vásquez, Juan Gabriel. **The Sound of Things Falling** Confront the startling stories behind the heartbreaking violence of the drug wars in Colombia.

Verghese, Abraham. **Cutting for Stone** You'll be swept into this riveting tale about two generations of Indian doctors working in Ethiopia through tumultuous times.

Walter, Jess. **Beautiful Ruins** A romance started in a ramshackle Italian hotel renews fifty years later.

Wilkerson, Isabel. **The Warmth of Other Suns** Recounting the lives of three families, Wilkerson traces the great migration northward by African Americans through the middle of the 20th century.