Independent Reading List

Approved Texts

Updated Fall 2019

**Ancient Texts**

Aristophanes
- Clouds 1
- Birds 1
- Frogs 1
- Wasp 1
- Lysistrata 1

Aristotle
- Rhetoric 2
- On the Soul 2
- Physics 3
- Metaphysics 3
- Politics 3

St. Athanasius
- On the Incarnation of the Word 2

St. Augustine
- On the Free Choice of the Will 2
- On Christian Doctrine 2
- City of God 4

Cicero
- On Duties 3
- On Old Age 2
- On Friendship 2
- On the Republic 3

Confucius
- Analects 1

Epicetetus
- Handbook 1

Euripides
- Bacchae 1
- Medea 1
- Iphigeneia at Aulis 1
- Trojan Women 1
- Hippolytus 1

Eusebius
- History of the Church 3

Galen
- On the Natural Faculties 1

St. Gregory of Nyssa
- Life of Moses 1
Hesiod
   *Works and Days* ¹
   *Theogony* ¹

Herodotus
   *Histories* ³

Hippocrates
   *Medical Writings* (The Oath, Epidemics I, Airs Waters Places, On Ancient Medicine, Science of Medicine) ¹ [These treatises are available in the Penguin edition Ed. Lloyd]

Homer
   *Iliad* ³

Horace
   *Odes* ³
   *The Art of Poetry* ¹

Livy
   *The History of Rome* (Books 1-2) ³

Lucretius
   *On the Nature of Things* ³

Origen
   *Exhortation to Martyrdom* ²

Ovid
   *Metamorphoses* ³

Plato
   *Ion* ¹
   *Euthyphro* ¹
   *Apology* ¹
   *Crito* ¹
   *Meno* ¹
   *Phaedo* ²
   *Gorgias* ²
   *Phaedrus* ²
   *Symposium* ²
   *Protagoras* ²
   *Timaeus* ²

Plutarch
   *The Age of Alexander: Nine Greek Lives* ³
   *Fall of the Roman Republic: Six Lives* ³

Ptolemy
   *Almagest* ³

Seneca
   *De Ira* (on Anger) ¹ [De Clementia (On Clemency) and Apocolocyntosis] ¹ *De Beneficiis (On Benefits)* ²

Sophocles
   *Oedipus the King* ¹
   *Antigone* ¹
   *Oedipus at Colonus* ¹
   *Ajax* ¹
   *Philoctetes* ¹
   *Women of Trachis* ¹
   *Electra* ¹

Tacitus
   *The Annals of Imperial Rome* ³

Thucydides
History of the Peloponnesian War

Virgil
- Eclogues
- Georgics

Medieval and Renaissance Texts

St. Anselm
- Prayers and Meditations

Averroes
- Decisive Treatise

Bede
- Ecclesiastical History of the English People

St. Benedict
- Rule of St. Benedict

St. Bonaventure
- The Mind’s Journey to God

Chretien de Troyes
- Arthurian Romances

Desiderius Erasmus
- In Praise of Folly

Francesco Petrarch
- My Secret Book

Francois Rabelais
- Gargantua and Pantagruel

Giovanni Boccaccio
- The Decamerone

Hildegard of Bingen
- Scivias
- Physica

John Bunyan
- Pilgrim’s Progress

John Calvin
- Institutes of the Christian Religion

St. John of the Cross
- Dark Night of the Soul

Julian of Norwich
- Revelations of Divine Love

Marie de France
- Lais

Martin Luther
- On Christian Liberty
- Table Talk
- Discourse on Free Will (against Erasmus)

Michel de Montaigne
- Essays (choose 3 essays, identify each by name)

Miguel de Cervantes
- Don Quixote

Moses Maimonides
- Guide for the Perplexed
Niccolo Machiavelli  
*The Prince* ²

Nicolaus Copernicus  
*On the Revolution of the Spheres* ²

Peter Abelard  
*Letters of Abelard and Heloise* ¹

Pico della Mirandola  
*Oration on the Dignity of Man* ¹

Pseudo-Dionysius  
*On the Divine Names* ²

Teresa of Avila  
*Interior Castle* ²  
*Life of St. Teresa of Avila* ²

Thomas à Kempis  
*The Imitation of Christ* ²

St. Thomas Aquinas  
*On Being and Essence* ²  
*The Division and Method of the Sciences* ²  
*Treatise on Happiness* ²  
*Treatise on Law* ²

Thomas More  
*Utopia* ²

Unknown  
*Beowulf* ²

Unknown  
*Song of Roland* ²

William Shakespeare (choose no more than 2 plays)  
*Richard II* ¹  
*Henry IV* ¹  
*Henry V* ¹  
*Tempest* ¹  
*As You Like It* ¹  
*Hamlet* ¹  
*Othello* ¹  
*Macbeth* ¹  
*King Lear* ¹  
*Sonnets* ¹  
*Much Ado About Nothing* ¹  
*Merchant of Venice* ¹

**Modern Texts: 17th Century to the Present**

Adam Smith  
*The Wealth of Nations* (abridged) ³

Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, John Jay  
*The Federalist Papers* ³

Alexander Pope  
*Rape of the Lock* ²

Benjamin Franklin  
*Autobiography* ¹
Blaise Pascal
   *Pensees* (choose 3 sections. Chosen sections must be specified on your final list)

David Hume
   *Dialogues on Natural Religion*

Denis Diderot
   *Rameau’s Nephew*

Francis Bacon
   *Novum Organum*
   *Essays*

Francois La Rochefoucauld
   *Maxims*

Galileo Galilei
   *The Assayer*
   *The Starry Messenger*

George Berkeley
   *Three Dialogues Between Hylas and Philonous*

Henry Fielding
   *Tom Jones*

Immanuel Kant
   *Foundations of the Metaphysics of Morals*
   *What is Enlightenment?*
   *Prolegomena to Any Future Metaphysics*

Jean Racine
   *Phedre*

Jean-Jacques Rousseau
   *Discourse on the Arts and Sciences*
   *Discourse on the Origin of Inequality*
   *On the Social Contract*
   *Emile*

John Locke
   *An Essay Concerning Human Understanding*

John Milton
   *Paradise Lost*

Jonathan Swift
   *A Modest Proposal*
   *Second Treatise on Government*
   *Letter on Toleration*

Moliere (Jean Baptiste Poquelin)
   *The Misanthrope*
   *The Miser*
   *Tartuffe*

Rene Descartes
   *Discourse on the Method*
   *Meditations on First Philosophy*

Samuel Johnson
   *Lives of the English Poets*

Thomas Hobbes
   *Leviathan*

Thomas Jefferson
   *Declaration of Independence*

Thomas Paine
Common Sense
The Rights of Man
Voltaire (Francois Marie Arouet)
Candide
William Blake
The Marriage of Heaven and Hell

Later Modern Texts: 19th and 20th Centuries

Albert Camus
The Stranger
The Plague
Albert Einstein
The Meaning of Relativity
Alexander Solzhenitsyn
Cancer Ward
Alexis de Tocqueville
Democracy in America (abridged)
Bertrand Russell
The Problems of Philosophy
“Why I am Not a Christian”
Charles Darwin
The Origin of Species
Charles Dickens
David Copperfield
Bleak House
Christa Wolf
Divided Heaven
Kassandra
Accident; A Day’s News
C.S. Lewis
The Abolition of Man
Till We Have Faces
The Screwtape Letters
Eugene O’Neill
A Long Day’s Journey into Night
Evelyn Waugh
Brideshead Revisited
Flannery O’Connor
The Complete Stories
Wise Blood
Franz Kafka
The Castle
Amerika
The Hunger Artist
Frederick Douglass
Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass
Friedrich Nietzsche
The Birth of Tragedy
On the Advantage and Disadvantage of History
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On the Genealogy of Morals</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thus Spoke Zarathustra</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>The Gay Science</td>
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<td>Beyond Good and Evil</td>
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<td>Twilight of the Idols</td>
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<td>Fyodor Dostoevsky</td>
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<td>Crime and Punishment</td>
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<td>Notes from Underground</td>
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<td>The Brothers Karamazov</td>
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<td>G.K. Chesterton</td>
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<td>Orthodoxy</td>
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<tr>
<td>G.W.F. Hegel</td>
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<td>Introduction to the Philosophy of History</td>
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<td>George Bernard Shaw</td>
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<td>Plays (Choose and identify up to two plays. Each play is worth 1 point)</td>
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<tr>
<td>George Eliot</td>
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<td>Middlemarch</td>
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<td>George Gordon (Lord Byron)</td>
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<td>Don Juan</td>
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<td>Gustave Flaubert</td>
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<td>Madame Bovary</td>
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<td>Hans-Georg Gadamer</td>
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<td>Truth and Method</td>
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<td>Henri Beyle Stendhal</td>
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<td>The Red and the Black</td>
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<td>Henrik Ibsen</td>
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<td>Four Major Plays</td>
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<td>Henry David Thoreau</td>
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<td>Walden</td>
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<td>Henry James</td>
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<td>Portrait of a Lady</td>
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<td>The Ambassadors</td>
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<td>The Europeans</td>
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<td>Herman Melville</td>
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<td>Moby Dick</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>James D. Watson</td>
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<td>The Double Helix</td>
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<td>James Joyce</td>
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<td>Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man</td>
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<td>Ulysses</td>
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<td>Finnegans Wake</td>
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<td>Jacques Derrida</td>
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<td>“Structure, Sign, and Play in the Discourse of the Human Sciences”</td>
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<td>Jane Austen</td>
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<td>Emma</td>
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<td>Pride and Prejudice</td>
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<td>Mansfield Park</td>
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<td>Jean-Paul Sartre</td>
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<td>No Exit</td>
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<td>Existentialism is a Humanism</td>
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<tr>
<td>Johann Wolfgang von Goethe</td>
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Faust 1 or 2
Italian Journey
Hermann and Dorothea
John Henry Newman
   Idea of a University
John Rawls
   Political Liberalism
John Stuart Mill
   On Liberty
   Utilitarianism
   The Subjection of Women
Karl Barth
   The Humanity of God
Karl Marx
   The Communist Manifesto
Leo Strauss
   Natural Right and History
   “What is Political Philosophy?”
Leo Tolstoy
   War and Peace
   Anna Karenina
Ludwig Wittgenstein
   Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus
Marcel Proust
   In search of Lost Time: Swann’s Way
Martin Heidegger
   On Being and Time
Martin Luther King
   “Letter from the Birmingham Jail”
Max Weber
   The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism
Matthew Arnold
   Culture and Anarchy
Michel Foucault
   Discipline and Punish
   “Nietzsche, Genealogy, History”
Ralph Ellison
   Invisible Man
Ralph Waldo Emerson
   Essays
Samuel Beckett
   Waiting for Godot
Samuel Taylor Coleridge
   Biographia Literaria
Sigmund Freud
   On the Interpretation of Dreams
   New Introductory Lectures on Psychoanalysis
   Future of an Illusion
   Civilization and Its Discontents
Simone de Beauvoir
   The Second Sex
Simone Weil  
   *Waiting for God*  

Soren Kierkegaard  
   *Either/Or*  
   *Fear and Trembling*  

Stephen Hawking  
   *The Universe in a Nutshell*  

T.S. Eliot  
   *The Waste Land and Other Poems* (read *The Waste Land* and 1 additional poem from the collection)  
   *Four Quartets*  
   “Tradition and the Individual Talent”  

Thomas Kuhn  
   *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*  

Thomas Mann  
   *Lotte in Weimar*  
   *Tristan*  
   *Dr. Faustus*  
   *Buddenbrooks*  
   *Death in Venice*  

Thorstein Veblen  
   *Theory of the Leisure Class*  

Toni Morrison  
   *Beloved*  

Virginia Woolf  
   *Orlando*  
   *A Room of One’s Own*  
   *To the Lighthouse*  

Vladimir Lenin  
   *What is to be Done?*  

Walker Percy  
   *The Moviegoer*  

William Faulkner  
   *The Sound and the Fury*  
   *Light in August*  

William Wordsworth  
   *Lyrical Ballads*  
   *The Prelude*  

Zora Neale Hurston  
   *Their Eyes Were Watching God*