

Independent Reading List

Approved Texts

Updated Fall 2020

Ancient Texts

Aristophanes

*Clouds*¹

*Birds*¹

*Frogs*¹

*Wasps*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 (Please list selected treatises, see examples below; **choose no more than 3 points in total**)

The Oath; Tradition in Medicine; Airs, Waters, Places; The Sacred Disease — 1 point

Above texts plus *The Canon; Epidemics 1; Epidemics 3; The Science of Medicine (aka the Art of Medicine); Aphorisms; Prognosis*— 2 points

Above texts plus *Regimen in Acute Diseases; Dreams; The Nature of Man; A Regimen for Health; Fractures; The Seed; The Nature of the Child; The Heart*—3 points

[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*³
Virgil
*Eclogues*¹
*Georgics*²

Medieval and Renaissance Texts

St. Anselm
*Prayers and Meditations*¹
Averroes
*Decisive Treatise*¹
Bede
*Ecclesiastical History of the English People*²
St. Benedict
*Rule of St. Benedict*¹
St. Bonaventure
*The Mind's Journey to God*¹
Chretien de Troyes
*Arthurian Romances*²
Desiderius Erasmus
*In Praise of Folly*¹
Francesco Petrararch
*My Secret Book*¹
Francois Rabelais
*Gargantua and Pantagruel*³
Giovanni Boccaccio
*The Decamerone*³
Hildegard of Bingen
*Scivias*³
*Physica*²
John Bunyan
*Pilgrim's Progress*³
John Calvin
*Institutes of the Christian Religion*³
St. John of the Cross
*Dark Night of the Soul*¹
Julian of Norwich
*Revelations of Divine Love*³
Marie de France
*Lais*²
Martin Luther
*On Christian Liberty*²

*Table Talk*²
*Discourse on Free Will (against Erasmus)*²
Michel de Montaigne
Essays (choose 3 essays, identify each by name)¹
Miguel de Cervantes
*Don Quixote*⁴
Moses Maimonides
*Guide for the Perplexed*¹
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)²

David Hume
*Dialogues on Natural Religion*²

Denis Diderot
*Rameau's Nephew*²

Francis Bacon
*Novum Organum*³
*Essays*²

Francois La Rochefoucauld
*Maxims*²

Galileo Galilei
*The Assayer*²
*The Starry Messenger*¹

George Berkeley
*Three Dialogues Between Hylas and Philonous*³

Henry Fielding
*Tom Jones*³

Immanuel Kant
*Foundations of the Metaphysics of Morals*²
*What is Enlightenment?*¹
*Prolegomena to Any Future Metaphysics*¹

Jean Racine
*Phedre*¹

Jean-Jacques Rousseau
*Discourse on the Arts and Sciences*¹
*Discourse on the Origin of Inequality*²
*On the Social Contract*²
*Emile*³

John Locke
*An Essay Concerning Human Understanding*³

John Milton
*Paradise Lost*³

Jonathan Swift
*A Modest Proposal*¹
*Second Treatise on Government*²
*Letter on Toleration*¹

Moliere (Jean Baptiste Poquelin)
*The Misanthrope*¹
*The Miser*¹
*Tartuffe*¹

Rene Descartes
*Discourse on the Method*²

*Meditations on First Philosophy*²
Samuel Johnson
*Lives of the English Poets*³
Thomas Hobbes
*Leviathan*³
Thomas Jefferson
*Declaration of Independence*¹
Thomas Paine
*Common Sense*¹
*The Rights of Man*³
Voltaire (Francois Marie Arouet)
*Candide*¹
William Blake
*The Marriage of Heaven and Hell*¹

Later Modern Texts: 19th and 20th Centuries

Albert Camus
*The Stranger*²
*The Plague*³
Albert Einstein
*The Meaning of Relativity*²
Alexander Solzhenitsyn
*Cancer Ward*²
Alexis de Tocqueville
Democracy in America (abridged)³
Bertrand Russell
*The Problems of Philosophy*²
“Why I am Not a Christian”¹
Charles Darwin
*The Origin of Species*³
Charles Dickens
*David Copperfield*³
*Bleak House*³
Christa Wolf
*Divided Heaven*²
*Kassandra*³
*Accident ; A Day's News*²
C.S. Lewis
*The Abolition of Man*¹
*Till We Have Faces*³
*The Screwtape Letters*²
Eugene O'Neill
*A Long Day's Journey into Night*³
Evelyn Waugh
*Brideshead Revisited*³
Flannery O'Connor
*The Complete Stories*³
*Wise Blood*²
Franz Kafka

The Castle ²
Amerika ²
The Hunger Artist ¹
Frederick Douglass
Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass ¹
Friedrich Nietzsche
The Birth of Tragedy ²
On the Advantage and Disadvantage of History ²
On the Genealogy of Morals ³
Thus Spoke Zarathustra ²
The Gay Science ³
Beyond Good and Evil ³
Twilight of the Idols ¹
Fyodor Dostoevsky
Crime and Punishment ⁴
Notes from Underground ¹
The Brothers Karamazov ⁴
G.K. Chesterton
Orthodoxy ²
G.W.F. Hegel
Introduction to the Philosophy of History ²
George Bernard Shaw
Plays (Choose and identify up to two plays. 1 point each) ¹
George Eliot
Middlemarch ³
George Gordon (Lord Byron)
Don Juan ³
Gustave Flaubert
Madame Bovary ³
Hans-Georg Gadamer
Truth and Method ³
Henri Beyle Stendhal
The Red and the Black ³
Henrik Ibsen
Four Major Plays ²
Henry David Thoreau
Walden ¹
Henry James
Portrait of a Lady ³
The Ambassadors ³
The Europeans ²
Herman Melville
Moby Dick ³
James D. Watson
The Double Helix ³
James Joyce
Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man ²
Ulysses ³
Finnegans Wake ¹
Jacques Derrida
“Structure, Sign, and Play in the Discourse of the Human Sciences” ¹

Jane Austen
*Emma*³
*Pride and Prejudice*³
*Mansfield Park*³

Jean-Paul Sartre
*No Exit*¹
*Existentialism is a Humanism*¹

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe
*Faust 1 or 2*³
*Italian Journey*³
*Hermann and Dorothea*¹

John Henry Newman
*Idea of a University*²

John Rawls
*Political Liberalism*³

John Stuart Mill
*On Liberty*²
*Utilitarianism*²
*The Subjection of Women*²

Karl Barth
*The Humanity of God*²

Karl Marx
*The Communist Manifesto*¹

Leo Strauss
*Natural Right and History*³
“What is Political Philosophy?”¹

Leo Tolstoy
*War and Peace*⁴
*Anna Karenina*³

Ludwig Wittgenstein
*Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus*²

Marcel Proust
*In search of Lost Time: Swann’s Way*²

Martin Heidegger
*On Being and Time*³

Martin Luther King
“Letter from the Birmingham Jail”¹

Max Weber
*The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*³

Matthew Arnold
*Culture and Anarchy*²

Michel Foucault
*Discipline and Punish*³
“Nietzsche, Genealogy, History”¹

Ralph Ellison
*Invisible Man*³

Ralph Waldo Emerson
*Essays*³

Samuel Beckett
*Waiting for Godot*¹

Samuel Taylor Coleridge

*Biographia Literaria*²
Sigmund Freud
*On the Interpretation of Dreams*³
*New Introductory Lectures on Psychoanalysis*³
*Future of an Illusion*²
*Civilization and Its Discontents*²
Simone de Beauvoir
*The Second Sex*⁴
Simone Weil
*Waiting for God*²
Soren Kierkegaard
*Either/Or*³
*Fear and Trembling*²
Stephen Hawking
*The Universe in a Nutshell*³
T.S. Eliot
The Waste Land and Other Poems (read *The Waste Land* and 1 additional poem from the collection)²
*Four Quartets*¹
“Tradition and the Individual Talent”¹
Thomas Kuhn
*The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*²
Thomas Mann
*Lotte in Weimar*³
*Tristan*¹
*Dr. Faustus*¹
*Buddenbrooks*³
*Death in Venice*³
Thorstein Veblen
*Theory of the Leisure Class*³
Toni Morrison
*Beloved*³
Virginia Woolf
*Orlando*³
*A Room of One’s Own*²
*To the Lighthouse*³
Vladimir Lenin
*What is to be Done?*³
Walker Percy
*The Moviegoer*²
William Faulkner
*The Sound and the Fury*³
*Light in August*³
William Wordsworth
*Lyrical Ballads*²
*The Prelude*²
Zora Neale Hurston
*Their Eyes Were Watching God*³