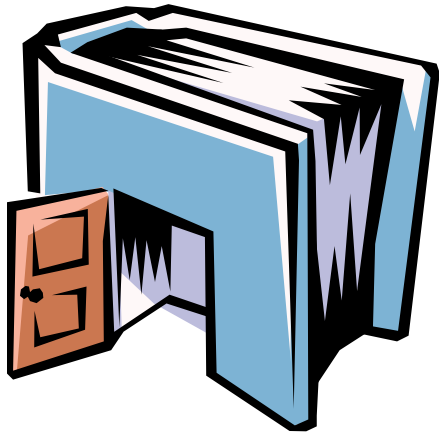


SOPHOMORE WORLD LITERATURE HONORS



SUMMER READING

DIRECTIONS

The following list includes titles of books from around the world and throughout the ages. In preparation for the Sophomore literature classes, please read the following title:

Alvarez, Julia.

IN THE TIME OF THE BUTTERFLIES.

The fictionalized account of the four Mirabel sisters who lived in the Dominican Republic under the dictatorship of General Trujillo.

This book will be used as a basis for discussion and writing during the first days in the Fall.

In addition, each student is required to read one title of her own choice from this list.

An annotated listing may be found on the Holy Names Academy website by clicking on [Academics](#) and then [Reading Lists](#) on the sidebar.

URL: <http://www.holynames-sea.org>

NOVELS

Achebe, Chinua.

THINGS FALL APART.

Okonkwo is an Igbo leader in Nigeria who has difficulty adjusting to British colonial rule. This is due to both traditional cultural values and his own character.

Atwood, Margaret E.

THE HANDMAID'S TALE.

In the Republic of Gilead, Offred serves as a handmaid whose function is to bear children. Her memories of a loving husband and daughter haunt her as she completes her duties in this futuristic society.

Austen, Jane.

NORTHANGER ABBEY.

This gothic romance of nineteenth century England is filled with secrets, betrayals, misadventures and a happy ending.

Cervantes, Miguel de.

DON QUIXOTE.

This kindly satire is set during sixteenth century Spain depicting knightly chivalry in particular and man's place in society in general.

Danticat, Edwige.

BREATH, EYES, MEMORY.

Sophie Caco was abandoned by her mother as a baby, and raised in an impoverished Haiti by her grand-mother. Now a teenager, Sophie is called to New York to live with her mother and finds Haiti's harsh rules of living

Defoe, Daniel.

ROBINSON CRUSOE.

A young seaman shipwrecked for twenty-four years, struggles for survival and meaning, and becomes reborn in faith, and a master of himself.

Dickens, Charles.

DAVID COPPERFIELD.

A young man leaves his home when his mother remarries and thus begins a series of adventures where he lives in poverty, receives an education, falls in love, marries and loses his wife yet to gain another.

Dostoevsky, Fedor.

THE BROTHERS KARAMAZOV.

Nineteenth century tsarist Russia is seen in its earthy barbarism through the eyes of Fyodor and his three sons as they are affected by society and choose to effect it also.

Dumas, Alexander.

THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO.

A breathtaking dramatic tale of mystery and intrigue is set in nineteenth century France where courage, avarice, kindness, and selfishness receive their just outcomes.

DuMaurier, Daphne.

THE GLASS BLOWERS.

In a powerful evocation of the inhumanity of war, here is a story of the Busson family whose lives are violently and permanently altered by the French Revolution and Civil War.

DuMaurier, Daphne.

REBECCA.

The timid new mistress of Manderley is haunted by the shadow of her predecessor, the vibrant Rebecca.

Emecheta, Buchi.

DESTINATION BIAFRA.

Set in the late 1960's in Nigeria, this novel tells of Debbie Ogedemgbe, daughter of a corrupt Nigerian government official who defies her parents by joining the army.

Holthe, Tess Uriza.

WHEN THE ELEPHANTS DANCE.

Thirteen-year-old Alejandro Karangalan, his sister and a guerrilla commander find their strength and friendship tested during the waning days of World War II and the fierce American/Japanese battle for the Philippines.

Hudson, William H.

GREEN MANSIONS.

Mr. Abel's tale of youth in a South American jungle is a romantic fantasy of the birdlike girl Rima whose comfort is within the forest and too solitary to allow another close to her.

Hugo, Victor.

THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME.

This historical romance is set in fifteenth century Paris where Quasimodo, the Hunchback bellringer of Notre Dame, tries to save Esmerelda, the gypsy witch girl.

Keneally, Thomas.

SCHINDLER'S LIST.

This is the story of Oskar Schindler, a German industrialist, who saved over one thousand Jews from the Nazis with enormous financial and personal cost.

Kipling, Rudyard.

KIM.

The adventures of an orphan son of an Irish soldier are set during the days of British rule in India.

Markandaya, Kamala.

NECTAR IN THE SIEVE.

A child-bride to a tenant farmer, the main character meets the changing times and fights poverty and disaster with courage and fortitude.

Marshall, Paule.

BROWN GIRL, BROWNSTONES.

Set in Brooklyn during the Depression and World War II, this is the story of Selina, whose parents emigrated from Barbados. She tries to overcome poverty and racism and make her new country home.

Orczy, Baroness.

THE SCARLET PIMPERNEL.

Set during the French Revolution, this is the story of a man and his followers who were the secret and principle threat to the rulers.

Orwell, George.

1984.

Eternal warfare is the price of bleak prosperity in a satire of totalitarian barbarism.

Pasternak, Boris.

DOCTOR ZHIVAGO.

This love story, set in post revolution Russia, tells the story of the poet Yuri who is destroyed by his love for the beautiful Lara.

Remarque, Erich M.

ALL QUIET ON THE WESTERN FRONT.

Through the eyes of a common soldier, WWI is stripped of all romanticism and is revealed as the reality of pounding shellfire, hunger, sickness and death.

Saint Exupery, Antoine de.

NIGHT FLIGHT.

The author charts the perilous world of pioneer aviation in a story set in the Andes where hazardous night flights are made by heroic men.

Solzhenitsyn, Alexander.

ONE DAY IN THE LIFE OF IVAN DENISOVICH.

A documentary novel describes the experiences of a Russian citizen unjustly imprisoned for a ten year term in a slave labor camp during the Stalin era.

Stevenson, Robert L.

KIDNAPPED.

Scotland after the rise of Prince Charlie is the background for this adventure story.

BIOGRAPHY

Takeyama, Michio.

HARP OF BURMA.

Corporal Mizushima tries to get the Japanese units to surrender toward the end of World War II. A battle ensues in which he is injured and rescued by a Buddhist monk. Thus begins a spiritual journey ending in his becoming a monk and tending to the war dead.

Tolstoy, Leo.

WAR AND PEACE.

The Napoleonic Wars are the background for this fascinating story of people and their interpersonal relations in Russia.

Uris, Leon.

MILA 18.

A handful of men and women made up the resistance unit in Warsaw using handmade weapons and bare hands, knowing that they faced certain death.

Uris, Leon.

TRINITY.

This novel depicts Ireland's struggle for independence and the violence caused by the divisions between the impoverished Catholic peasantry and the wealthy Protestant aristocracy.

Undset, Sigrid.

KRISTIN LAVRANSDATTER.

A saga written in three parts set in fourteenth century Norway, tells of Kristin, her tumultuous marriage and the trials and sorrows of raising seven sons.

Verne, Jules.

A JOURNEY TO THE CENTER OF THE EARTH.

Led by the urgings of a rare twelfth century parchment, Professor Von Hardwigg and his nephew travel to Mt. Sneffels in Iceland where they begin their descent into the center of the earth.

Bernstein, Sara Tuval.

THE SEAMSTRESS: A MEMOIR OF SURVIVAL.

Sara, a Romanian Jew, recounts her experiences of surviving the Nazi regime by working as a seamstress and her remarkable survival of Ravensbruck concentration camp.

Bolton, Ruthie.

GAL.

The author's story, as related to Josephine Humphries, tells of growing up in an abusive home in the Hungry Neck section of Charleston, South Carolina.

Chong, Denise.

THE CONCUBINE'S CHILDREN.

In this story of Chan Sam and his family we are reminded of the remarkable events which brought many Chinese families and children to the new world.

Mathabane, Mark,

KAFFIR BOY: THE TRUE STORY OF A BLACK YOUTH'S COMING OF AGE IN APARTHEID SOUTH AFRICA.

Mathabane describes his life growing up in a nonwhite ghetto outside Johannesburg and how he escaped its horrors. Hard work and faith in education played key roles. He eventually won a tennis scholarship to an American university.

McCourt, Frank.

ANGELA'S ASHES, A MEMOIR.

Born to Irish immigrants during the Depression, the author tells of the family's return to Ireland and the affliction brought on by the starvation and squalor in a Limerick slum.

Mortenson, Greg and David Oliver Relin.

THREE CUPS OF TEA.

After being rescued off of K2, the author's entire life focus changed to a one man mission to fight ignorance and terrorism by building one school at a time in the small remote villages of Pakistan.

Tsai Chin.

DAUGHTER OF SHANGHAI.

Tsai Chin, stage and film actress, tells of her life in cosmopolitan Shanghai, the years of political changes in China, and of her theatrical career in London and America.

Wiesel, Elie.

NIGHT.

The Nobel Laureate writes of a young boy whose concentration camp experiences leave a question as to how God could allow such horror. No easy answer is given.

Nir, Yehuda.

THE LOST CHILDHOOD: A MEMOIR.

Six years of the war are told through the eyes of a young Polish Jew boy whose mother disguised him as a girl so that he could survive on the streets during World War II.

DRAMA

Chekhov, Anton.

THE CHERRY ORCHARD.

A tragedy of the decline of the hereditary aristo-cracy in Russia is symbolized by the cherry orchard which passes into the hands of Lopakhin, son of serfs.

Ibsen, Henrik.

A DOLL'S HOUSE.

When Nora forges her father's signature on a note, her husband denounces her. She realizes that he wants a 'doll' for a wife and she refuses which leads to events where she finds her own voice.

Shakespeare, William M.

AS YOU LIKE IT.

In the Forest of Arden, the restraints of everyday life are released and the characters are free to remake themselves as the lovers Rosalind, Orlando, Oliver, and Celia work through the barriers presented to them.