

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** of which are designated. **Two** 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 Deerfield's Campus Store (Hitchcock House) at 413-774-1513 to arrange a shipment. You can also email caustin@deerfield.edu. He will help you resolve the difficulty.

Community ReadStevenson, Bryan. **Just Mercy****English 500 American Literature**Hurston, Zora Neale. **Their Eyes Were Watching God****English 500 American Studies**Horwitz, Tony. **Spying on the South**

Ashbery, John. **Selected Poems.** The Heritage Award-winning Deerfield graduate's selection of his own best poems.

Barry, John. M. **The Great Influenza** Return with a historian to the pandemic that roiled the entire world in 1918.

Bradley, David. **The Chaneyville Incident** An African-American historian learns about his father and himself in uncovering the mystery of a shocking incident.

Brown, Dee. **Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee** Brown chronicles the intertwined fates of Native Americans and the immigrants who "tamed the West."

Buck, Rinker. **Oregon Trail** Modern-day journalist Buck travels the trail in an old-fashioned mule wagon.

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)

Crane, Stephen. **The Red Badge of Courage** A naive boy heads to the Civil War to become a hero, but his courage falters in the face of overwhelming armies and an indifferent universe.

Edugyan, Esi. **Washington Black** Science and a hot-air balloon carry a young slave from Barbados to the realm of discovery.

Egan, Timothy. **Short Nights of the Shadow Catcher** Explore the life and photographic work of Edward S. Curtis, who preserved Native American culture on film.

Erdrich, Louise. **Plague of Doves** An act by vigilantes haunts a family and tribe for years on an Ojibwe reservation.

Fitzgerald, F. Scott. **This Side of Paradise** We follow Amory Blaine through prep school, Princeton, love, and loss, and leave him peering into adulthood and trying to figure out what he believes.

Ginsberg, Allen. **Howl and Other Poems** Meet the Beat Poet who helped define a movement.

Graham, Jorie. **From the New World** These poems contend with consciousness, memory, imperialism, and art.

Grann, David. **Killers of the Flower Moon** Who was killing Osage Indians and drilling oil wells on their land?

Haight, Jennifer. **Heat and Light** A small Pennsylvania town wrestles with the various costs of fracking for natural gas.

Hass, Robert. **The Apple Trees at Olema: New and Selected Poems** Hass focuses this selection on the Northern California landscape and on human experience.

Hudes, Quiara Alegría. **Elliot, A Soldier's Fugue** Follow Elliot's return to peacetime after serving in Iraq as Hudes, who will visit campus in January 2021, begins her trilogy of award-winning plays focused on the Puerto Rican veteran and his family.

Jiles, Paulette. **News of the World** Travel with a grizzled Civil War veteran who leads an unwilling girl who had been captured and raised by the Kiowas back to her family.

Kolbert, Elizabeth. **Field Notes from a Catastrophe** Read these dispatches and decide for yourself about the threats of climate change.

Lalami, Laila. **The Moor's Account** Might there be other perspectives on the exploration and exploitation of New World? This imagined memoir of the first black explorer, a once-enslaved Moor, in North America offers a new possibility.

Maclean, Norman. **A River Runs Through It and Collected Stories** Maclean tells the story of his family and fly-fishing, of bar fights and bait fishermen, of a Montana "with the dew still on it."

Malcolm X. **The Autobiography of Malcolm X** Follows the turbulent life of this famous man, from his rough youth through prison and conversion to Islam and into his leadership period.

Mbue, Imbolo. **Behold the Dreamers** A Cameroonian couple hopes to succeed in New York City as the economy falls apart.

McCann, Colum. **Transatlantic** Traversing time, McCann weaves together the stories of an early flight across the Atlantic, Frederick Douglass's visit to Ireland, and the peace settlement between Ireland and Northern Ireland.

McPhee, John. **Levels of the Game** Arthur Ashe struggles to overcome prejudice against black tennis players.

Mengestu, Dinaw. **The Beautiful Things That Heaven Bears** An Ethiopian immigrant battles the despair in his new community in Washington, D.C.

Orange, Tommy. **There There** A powwow in Oakland offers the opportunity for displaced Native Americans to test identities.

Otsuka, Julie. **The Buddha in the Attic** Japanese "picture brides" struggle to adapt in an American nation that revokes its initial welcome.

Patchett, Ann. **State of Wonder** Is there another "heart of darkness" deep in the Amazonian rainforest?

Plath, Sylvia. **The Bell Jar** After graduating from college, Esther Greenwood works in New York as an editor. As her life becomes more complex, her grasp on reality diminishes.

Poe, Edgar Allan. **Selected Stories** Poe penetrates his haunted and obsessed characters' secrets.

Potok, Chaim. **My Name is Asher Lev** A Jewish artist struggles with the demands of faith and art.

Powers, Kevin. **The Yellow Birds** Two Army privates in Iraq carry the war's burdens in different ways.

Powers, Richard. **The Overstory** Interlocking stories over a 100-year span reveal the power of trees and the human bonds with them.

Rankine, Claudia. **Citizen** Using the lyric essay form, Rankine engages with contemporary American racial politics from Trayvon Martin to Michael Brown.

Sharma, Akhil. **Family Life** Grief, dislocation, and discrimination threaten immigrants in Queens, but a young man's resilience helps to restore the family.

Silver, Marisa. **Mary Coin** Silver imagines the story of the woman captured in an iconic photo of the Depression.

Steinbeck, John. **The Grapes of Wrath** Follow the Joad family from the Oklahoma Dust Bowl to California—the paradise that supposedly would end their problems.

Vonnegut, Kurt. **Slaughterhouse-Five** Journey through time in telegraphic, schizophrenic style with Billy Pilgrim, who can never escape the horrors of the Dresden firebombing.

Ward, Jesmyn. **Sing, Unburied, Sing** This family road trip through a ravaged southern landscape will haunt you.

Watson, Bruce. **Freedom Summer** White and black college students risk their lives to advance civil rights in Mississippi.

Watson, James. **The Double Helix** Relive the race to discover the structure of DNA.

Whitehead, Colson. **The Nickel Boys** In the 1960s during Jim Crow, Nickel Academy is the kind of institution that purports to rebrand bad boys into good young men, but what happens inside does not match its public image.

Wright, Richard. **Native Son** Who or what is responsible for the murders Big Tom commits?