

COR JESU ACADEMY
ENGLISH DEPARTMENT



Summer Reading List: 2009-2010

The following list contains the titles of required reading for English classes at Cor Jesu Academy. Check the list carefully to see how your summer reading can be valuable for you not only for next year's study but also for your future years' study. **You are encouraged either to take notes or keep a reading log while reading, as you will be assessed on this reading in the Fall . Enjoy!**

Note: EN410 (Creative Writing) and EN411 (Essay Writing) do not have summer reading requirements. For EN551 (AP English Language and Composition/ACC Rhetoric), please see note in EN555 list.

EN 100: Introduction to Composition and Literature

	Title & Author	Description
REQUIRED:	<i>A Separate Peace</i> Knowles, Jonathan	Set during the early years of WWII, this tale deals with conflict, peace, and the relationship of two best friends. Gene and Finny are spending the summer at school when a pivotal event changes both of their lives.
READ AT LEAST TWO OF THESE:	<i>The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman</i> Gaines, Ernest	In this fictional autobiography, Miss Jane starts her story with girlhood memories of being freed from slavery after the Civil War and then recounts her growth from adolescence into womanhood
	<i>The Heart is a Lonely Hunter</i> McCullers, Carson	This novel makes a statement about human loneliness and isolation through the stories of four characters, including a teenage girl, and their relationship to a mute
	<i>The Chosen</i> Chaim Potok	In 1940s Brooklyn, New York, two Jewish boys, one modern orthodox and one Hasidic, form an unlikely but deep friendship.
	<i>Great Expectations</i> Dickens, Charles	Similar to Dickens' memories of his own childhood, young Pip seems powerless to stand against injustice or to ever realize his dreams. However, as he grows into a useful worker and an educated young man, he reaches an important realization: grand schemes & dreams are never what they first seem to be.
	<i>Mythology</i> Hamilton, Edith	Classic stories from Greek, Roman, and Norse mythology are retold in the pages of this text. The gods, the creation, and other early tales of heroes will give you a basic understanding of literature.

EN 200: World Literature

	Title & Author	Description
REQUIRED:	<i>Frankenstein</i> Shelley, Mary	Frankenstein is an excellent example of a Gothic novel, which delves into questions still relevant today, such as: What does it mean to be human? What influence does technology have on humanity? What responsibility do humans have in protecting/preserving life?
READ AT LEAST TWO OF THESE:	<i>Things Fall Apart</i> Achebe, Chinua	In eastern Nigeria at the start of the 20 th century, African and European cultures collide in an Igbo village. Achebe's story tells of the downfall of a great man who resists the changes coming about in his homeland.
	<i>Lord of the Flies</i> Golding, William	A study of young boys forced to make difficult choices when they become isolated from civilization
	<i>1984</i> Orwell, George	This science fiction novel chillingly depicts how the power of the state dominates the lives of individuals through cultural conditioning.
	<i>Antigone</i> Sophocles	This classic tragedy deals with the power of a weak young woman who stands up against a powerful ruler.
	<i>Anna Karenina</i> Tolstoy, Leo	A story of a fashionable married woman who ends up following her heart to tragic ends.
	<i>The Night Trilogy: Night, Dawn, & Day</i> Wiesel, Eli	Wiesel's three stories combine to create a thought-provoking response to the Holocaust through the stories of three men in different places and times but dealing with some of the same issues concerning all mankind.

EN 300: American Literature

	Title & Author	Description
REQUIRED:	<i>The Grapes of Wrath</i> Steinbeck, John	A historical novel about the desperate flight of tenant farmers from the Midwest during the Depression; the Joad family struggles to retain their dignity in spite of the hostility they find in California.
READ AT LEAST TWO OF THESE:	<i>The Rise of Silas Lapham</i> Howells, William	A psychological exploration of how Silas Lapham, a Vermonter, takes over a minor paint business from his father and turns it into a significant success and the ramification of that success.
	<i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i> Hurston, Zora Neale	A tale about Janie, a black woman in 1920's Florida and her search for self and love.
	<i>Spoon River Anthology</i> Masters, Edgar Lee	Masters writes of a fictional town called "Spoon River" in the form of over 200 free verse poems. The story of the town is told through epitaphs and from the point of view of over 200 of its dead members. As they weave the story of their lives the history of the town comes to life. This atypical format will give you're a break from reading the standard novel.
	<i>The Poisonwood Bible</i> Kingsolver, Barbara	The story of Nathan Price, a Baptist Missionary, and his family of four daughters who face many obstacles in politically turbulent Congo, Africa in 1959.
	<i>The Things They Carried</i> O'Brien, Tim	Tim O'Brien writes stories about his friends in his platoon during the Vietnam War.
	<i>The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i> Twain, Mark	In this novel Huck takes a trip down the river with a runaway slave and learns the worth of life.
	<i>Walden</i> Thoreau, Henry David	In his stay on Walden Pond, Thoreau finds that a life based in solitude, simplicity, and living close to nature is a better life than what he had been living.
	<i>Slaughterhouse Five</i> Vonnegut, Kurt	This novel tells the story of Billy Pilgrim, who is "unstuck in time" and as a result of this uncontrollably gets flung around the scenes of his life.

EN 356/SS 356: AP U.S. History/ACC American Studies

	Title & Author	Description
REQUIRED READING:	<i>The Grapes of Wrath</i> Steinbeck, John	A historical novel about the desperate flight of tenant farmers from the Midwest during the Depression; the Joad family struggles to retain their dignity in spite of the hostility they find in California.
	<i>The Things They Carried</i> O'Brien, Tim	Tim O'Brien writes stories about his friends in his platoon during the Vietnam War.
	<i>Walden</i> Thoreau, Henry David	In his stay on Walden Pond, Thoreau finds that a life based in solitude, simplicity, and living close to nature is a better life than what he had been living.
	<i>The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i> Twain, Mark	In this novel Huck takes a trip down the river with a runaway slave and learns the worth of life.
REQUIRED VIEWING:	<i>Glory</i> Zwick, Edward, Dir.	A tale of the Civil War, this film tells the story of an all-black army unit from Massachusetts as its white commander leads the men into battles, both of racism and actual combat.

EN 405: Early British Literature

	Title & Author	Description
REQUIRED:	<i>Utopia</i> Moore, Thomas	Sir (later Saint) Thomas More's social satire exposes the folly of early Renaissance Europe and considers what a perfect world might look like. But one might wonder, is the Utopia discussed by the traveler (Raphael Hythloday) More's ideal or someone else's? And how does the world we live in today compare to the imagined Utopia in the book?
READ AT LEAST ONE OF THESE:	<i>Robinson Crusoe</i> Defoe, Daniel	The inspiration for the recent television miniseries, <i>Crusoe</i> , and scores of films, most notably <i>Cast Away</i> , and even reality t.v. shows like <i>Survivor</i> , this book is a classic adventure/survival story involving a man washed up and living alone on a desert isle. He will find divine inspiration; meet, convert, and 'employ' a native (who he names Friday); and struggle to survive with little other than his own wits and the bounty of the island. But how has his nearly decade long-island ordeal affected the man?
	<i>The Tempest</i> Shakespeare, William	Beginning with Prospero, the rightful Duke of Milan, and his daughter stranded on an island, <i>The Tempest</i> is Shakespeare's last, maybe greatest, romantic piece.

EN 406: Late British Literature

	Title & Author	Description
REQUIRED	<i>Hamlet</i> Shakespeare, William	Hamlet is without question the most famous play in the English language .The tragedy is considered a milestone in Shakespeare's dramatic development using brilliant depiction of the hero's struggle with two opposing forces: moral integrity and the need to avenge his father's murder.
READ AT LEAST ONE OF THESE:	<i>The Picture of Dorian Gray</i> Wilde, Oscar	Lord Henry Wotton is a spectator in life and he does his best to influence Dorian in that direction. Dorian becomes corrupt and self-indulgent, but in answer to his prayer, he escapes unscarred from his escapades. The portrait of this man powerfully establishes evil as a reality in the novel.
	<i>To The Lighthouse</i> Woolf, Virginia	This stream of conscience novel takes place on two days, separated by ten years. The novel begins on a September evening in the Hebrides before World War I, in the middle of a discussion about the possibility of going to the Lighthouse the next day.
	<i>The Once & Future King</i> White, T. H	White uses <i>The Once And Future King</i> as his own personal view of the ideal society. The book, most of which "takes place on the isle of Gramarye," chronicles the raising and education of King Arthur, his rule as a king, and the romance between his best knight Sir Lancelot and his Queen Guinevere.
	<i>The Prime of Miss Jane Brody</i> Spark, Muriel	A teacher at a girls' school in Edinburgh during the 1930s comes into conflict with school authorities because of her unorthodox teaching methods.

EN 407: Novels

	Title & Author	Description
REQUIRED:	<i>Invisible Man</i> Ellison, Ralph	"I am an invisible man" begins this novel of an unnamed black man's search for identity as an individual and as a member of his race and society. The story goes beyond one man's search and chronicles every person's struggle for self-identity

EN 413:Archetypes and Universals in Fairy Tales

	Title & Author	Description
REQUIRED:	<i>Snow White & The Red Rose</i> The Brothers Grimm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Go to the SurLaLune fairy tales site at http://www.surlalunefairytales.com/talesindex.html.• Scroll to the tales under the Grimm brother heading.• From these tales, please read the assigned stories in addition to two stories of your choosing from the Grimm brothers. Come to class on the 1st day with notes on how these tales are similar to your perception of fairy tales and how they are different from what you expect in a fairy tale.
	<i>Hansel & Gretel</i> The Brothers Grimm	
CHOOSE:	Two other stories from The Brothers Grimm	

EN 414: Satire

	Title & Author	Description
REQUIRED:	<i>The Importance of Being Ernest</i> Wilde, Oscar	Oscar Wilde's comedy of manners, concealed and disguised identities, and the pursuit of a beautiful young woman. A light satire of class and Victorian social customs, the play does raise some interesting questions about identity and truth, but it mainly is a forum Wilde's wit and gift for playful dialogue.
	<i>A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court</i> Twain, Mark	A 'modern' (from the late 19 th century) American heads back to England in the Middle Ages. His insistence upon meddling with history by introducing modern technologies into King Arthur's Camelot makes him very powerful, but also a big target. Twain's fish out of water tale allows him to critique American life at the turn of the century from the safe distance and perspective of 6 th century England.

See next page for EN 555: ACC Introduction to Literature.

EN 555: ACC Introduction to Literature

	Title & Author	Description
REQUIRED:	<i>Heart of Darkness</i> Conrad, Joseph	A probing psychological novel, this book explores the darkness in the soul of each man as the narrator, Marlow, makes a journey into the depths of the Congo where he discovers the extent to which greed can corrupt a good man.
	<i>Madame Bovary</i> Flaubert, Gustave	A realist novel in which a young wife is bored with her husband and engages in extramarital affairs, seeking unsuccessfully to find the emotional experiences she has read about in romantic novels.
HIGHLY SUGGESTED Read at least ONE of these: ** Books with this mark will also be read in EN551. Students can get a jump start on their work by reading them over the summer to make rereading them in class easier.	<i>Pride and Prejudice</i> Austen, Jane	A novel about love and marriage among the English gentry of Austen's day; the hero's pride in his social class conflicts with the heroine's prejudice against him based on first impression
	<i>Wuthering Heights</i> Bronte, Emily	A masterpiece of English romanticism, this is a novel of love and revenge in which the demonic passion of the hero-villain Heathcliff destroys his beloved Catherine, her family, and eventually himself
	** <i>An American Childhood</i> Dillard, Annie	A series of reflections in which the essayist recounts her unusual American childhood
	<i>Invisible Man</i> Ellison, Ralph	"I am an invisible man" begins this novel of an unnamed black man's search for identity as an individual and as a member of his race and society. The story goes beyond one man's search and chronicles every person's struggle for self-identity
	** <i>Wide Saragaso Sea</i> Rhys, Jean	The story may have ended with Jane Eyre and Rochester, but what happened before Jane met the man of her dreams? Explore the allure and danger of tropical islands through "Bertha's" - Rochester's first wife - eyes in this richly detailed work. What events made Bertha end up a sequestered, shunned woman?
	<i>The Fountainhead</i> Rand, Ayn	A lengthy novel which explores Ayn Rand's philosophy of objectivism through her depiction of the perfect man, embodied in architect Howard Roark
	** <i>The Piano Lesson</i> Wilson, August	Family relationships are at the heart of who we are. If you're supported and loved, you walk with confidence and poise throughout life. If not, you struggle and search for that part of you which long to find fulfillment. You may never look at your family the same way again.
	** <i>The Stone Angel</i> Laurence, Margaret	Have you ever wondered why old people act the way they do? What makes them crabby or happy or involved? In this compelling novel, the author explores the events in an elderly person's life which have molded her character and led her to her present mindset.