

SUMMER READING

Books Recommended by Faculty

We asked several faculty members to “name a book or two that you feel should be included in a hypothetical list entitled ‘Important books for students in the class of 2010 to read before they finish their undergraduate education.’”

A Brief Tour of Human Consciousness:

From Imposter Poodles to Purple Numbers, V. S. Ramachandran
A Canticle for Leibowitz, Walter M. Miller
A Fine Balance, Rohinton Mistry
A History of the American People, Paul Johnson
A Random Walk Down Wall Street, Burton Malkiel
A Room of One’s Own and *Mrs. Dalloway*, Virginia Woolf
A Supposedly Fun Thing I’ll Never Do Again, David Foster Wallace
Against the Gods: The Remarkable Story of Risk, Peter Bernstein
AIDS Doctors: Voices from the Epidemic. An Oral History, Ronald Bayer and Gerald M. Oppenheimer
And The Band Played On, Randy Shiltz
Animal Farm, Homage to Catalonia, and Nineteen Eighty-Four, George Orwell
Anthem, Ayn Rand
Armchair Economist: Economics and Everyday Experience, Steven Landsburg
Art Objects: Essays on Ecstasy and Effrontery, Jeanette Winterson
Babbitt, Sinclair Lewis
Bias, Bernard Goldberg
Blink, Malcolm McDonald
Bloods: An Oral History of the Vietnam War by Black Veterans, Wallace Terry
Body Bazaar: The Market for Human Tissue in the Biotechnology Age, Lori Andrews and Dorothy Nelkin
Candide, Voltaire

City of Quartz, Mike Davis

Close to Shore: The Terrifying Shark Attacks of 1916, Michael Capuzzo
Constitution of the United States
Crime and Punishment and *The Brothers Karamazov*, Fyodor Dostoevsky
Cultural Literacy, E. D. Hirsch Jr.
Das Kapital, Karl Marx
Democracy in America, Alexis de Tocqueville
Diary of a Slave Girl, K. J. McWilliams
Don Quixote, Miguel de Cervantes
Dune, Frank Herbert
e: The Story of a Number, Eli Maor
Eating Well for Optimum Health, Andrew Weil
Essays, Michel de Montaigne
Fall on Your Knees, Ann-Marie MacDonald
Faust, Goethe
For Whom the Bell Tolls, Ernest Hemingway
Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything, Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner
Free Trade Under Fire, Douglas Irwin
Gargantua, François Rabelais
Gilead, Marilynne Robinson
Giovanni’s Room, James Baldwin

Good to Great, Jim Collins

Gulliver’s Travels, Jonathan Swift
Hamlet, King Lear, Macbeth, The Tempest, and Sonnets, William Shakespeare
Heart of Darkness, Joseph Conrad
I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings, Maya Angelou
In an Antique Land: History in the Guise of a Traveler’s Tale, Amitav Ghosh
Infections and Inequalities: The Modern Plagues, Paul Farmer
Invisible Man, Ralph Ellison
King Leopold’s Ghost, Adam Hochschild
Letter from a Birmingham Jail, Martin Luther King Jr.
Letters from the Earth and Pudd’nhead Wilson, Mark Twain
Life and Times of Michael K, J. M. Coetzee
Life of Pi, Yann Martel
Lincoln Douglas Debates
Living a Life That Matters: Resolving the Conflict Between Conscience and Success, Harold S. Kushner
Madame Bovary, Gustave Flaubert
Making Peace with the Planet, Barry Commoner
Mary, Called Magdalene, Margaret George

The Language Instinct by Steven Pinker (“a wonderful illustration of how we learn languages, it attempts to deconvolute what we have embedded in our genes and what we acquire through our culture”) and *Guns, Germs, and Steel* by Jared Diamond (“the clearest discussion, at least in what I have read, of the importance of the physical realities of the world as they relate to the development of cultures”) “are among books I read well after my college days that taught me a big idea or were infused with an emotion or feeling that made them unique,” says **William Miles**, professor of chemistry.

Memoirs of Hadrian, Marguerite Yourcenar

Merchants of Immortality: Chasing the Dream of Human Life Extension, Stephen S. Hall
Moby Dick, Herman Melville
Mountains Beyond Mountains, Tracy Kidder
Nervous Conditions, Tsitsi Dangarembga
Novum Organum (First Book), Francis Bacon
Nuclear Terrorism: The Ultimate Preventable Catastrophe, Graham Allison
One Hundred Years of Solitude, Gabriel Garcia Marquez
Orientalism, Edward Said
Our Endangered Values, Jimmy Carter
Paradise Lost, John Milton
Promethius Bound, Aeschylus
Reading Lolita in Tehran: A Memoir in Books, Azar Nafisi
Robinson Crusoe, Daniel Defoe
Seeing Like a State, James C. Scott
Should I Be Tested for Cancer? Maybe Not and Here’s Why, H. Gilbert Welch
Siddhartha, Hermann Hesse
Step Across this Line, Salman Rushdie
Summer of My German Soldier, Bette Greene
Suzanne’s Diary for Nicholas, James Patterson
Swann’s Way, Marcel Proust
Team of Rivals, Doris Kearns Goodwin
The Abolition of Man and *The Screwtape Letters*, C. S. Lewis

The Aeneid, Virgil

The Best and the Brightest, David Halberstam
The Bible
The Black Heralds, Cesar Vallejo
The Canterbury Tales, Geoffrey Chaucer
The CIA in Guatemala: The Foreign Policy of Intervention, Richard H. Immerman
The Color of Water: A Black Man’s Tribute to His White Mother, James McBride
The Control of Nature, John McPhee
The Corrections, Jonathan Franzen
The Devil in the White City, Erik Larson
The Devil’s Dictionary, Ambrose Bierce
The Divine Comedy, Dante
The Enemy Within, Michael Savage
The Epic of Gilgamesh
The Federalist Papers, Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay
The Goal, Eliyahu M. Goldratt and Jeff Cox
The Grapes of Wrath, John Steinbeck
The Iliad and *The Odyssey*, Homer
The Innovator’s Dilemma, Clayton M. Christensen
The Kite Runner, Khaled Hosseini
The Lexus and the Olive Tree and *The World is Flat*, Thomas L. Friedman
The Magus, John Fowles
The Man Who Loved Only Numbers, Paul Hoffman
The Millionaire Next Door, William D. Danko and Thomas J. Stanley
The Origin of Species, Charles Darwin

The Perfect Storm, Sebastian Junger
The Plague, Albert Camus
The Power Broker, Robert Caro
The Praise of Folly, Erasmus
The Prince, Niccolo Machiavelli
The Qur’an
The Republic, Plato
The Rise of Theodore Roosevelt, Edmund Morris
The Scarlet Letter, Nathaniel Hawthorne
The Second Sex, Simone de Beauvoir
The Shipping News, Annie Proulx
The Structure of Scientific Revolutions, Thomas Kuhn
The Things They Carried, Tim O’Brien
The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference, Malcolm Gladwell
The Trial, Franz Kafka
The War on Christmas: How the Liberal Plot to Ban the Sacred Christian Holiday Is Worse Than You Thought, John Gibson
The Winner’s Curse, Richard H. Thaler
The Wretched of the Earth, Frantz Fanon
There Are No Children Here, Alex Kotlowitz
Things Fall Apart, Chinua Achebe
To Kill a Mockingbird, Harper Lee
Treatises of Government, John Locke
Triple Helix: Gene, Organism, and Environment, Richard Lewontin
Truman, David McCullough
Ubu Roi, Alfred Jarry
Ulysses, James Joyce
Walden, Henry Thoreau
Walden Two, B. F. Skinner
What It Means to Be 98% Chimpanzee: Apes, People, and Their Genes, Jonathan Marks
What Price the Moral High Ground? Ethical Dilemmas in Competitive Environments, Robert H. Frank
What the Numbers Say: A Field Guide to Mastering Our Numerical World, Derrick Niederman and David Boyum

“What educator wouldn’t want to suggest important books that can prove crucial in a student’s intellectual and emotional maturation?” says **Michael O’Neill**, associate professor of English and director of theater. Among his titles: *The Major Plays of Anton Chekov* (“The great Russian physician-turned-dramatist revolutionized the way we think about ourselves by daring to put on stage the inconsequential activity of characters who, paradoxically, have deeply rich inner lives in which we see reflected familiar fragments of our own complexity, humor, and pain.”) and *A Passage to India* by E.M. Forster (“The great ironic epic story of British imperialism in India tackles all the important issues—religious belief, cultural conflict, love and marriage, and our place in the universe. It seems more timely with each passing year.”)