



HILLSDALE COLLEGE

List of Representative Great Books

This list is an illustration of the kinds of works students read and study in ENG 101 and 102, "Rhetoric and the Great Books," at Hillsdale College. Many students will read other works as well, and not everything below is taught in every class. Longer works may be read in excerpts. As an illustration of what is studied, however, the list reveals the breadth of literature students may expect to study in their freshman year.

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| Homer: <i>The Odyssey, The Iliad</i> | Pope: <i>The Rape of the Lock, An Essay on Man</i> |
| Aeschylus: <i>Oresteia</i> | Voltaire: <i>Candide</i> |
| Sophocles: <i>Oedipus Rex, Antigone</i> | Rousseau: <i>Confessions</i> |
| Euripedes: <i>Medea</i> | Goethe: <i>Faust</i> |
| Plato: <i>The Apology of Socrates, Phaedo</i> | Heine: lyric poems |
| Aristotle: <i>Poetics</i> | Blake: selected poetry |
| Virgil: <i>The Aeneid</i> | Wordsworth: selected poetry |
| Old Testament: <i>Genesis, Job, Psalms</i> | Coleridge: selected poetry |
| New Testament: <i>Matthew, Luke</i> | Shelley: selected poetry |
| St. Augustine: <i>Confessions</i> | Keats: selected poetry |
| St. Benedict: <i>Rule</i> | Whitman: selected poetry |
| Anon.: <i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i> | Dickinson: selected poetry |
| Dante: <i>The Divine Comedy</i> | Dostoevsky: <i>Notes from Underground</i> |
| Boccaccio: <i>The Decameron</i> | Baudelaire: selected poetry |
| Chaucer: <i>The Canterbury Tales</i> | Tolstoy: <i>The Death of Ivan Ilyich</i> |
| Anon.: <i>Everyman</i> | Ibsen: <i>Hedda Gabler</i> |
| Petrarch: <i>Sonnets</i> | Chekhov: <i>The Cherry Orchard</i> |
| Erasmus: <i>The Praise of Folly</i> | Freud: "Dora" |
| Machiavelli: <i>The Prince</i> | Yeats: selected poetry |
| Shakespeare: <i>Hamlet, Othello</i> | Mann: "Death in Venice" |
| Castiglione: <i>The Book of the Courtier</i> | James Joyce: "The Dead" |
| Rabelais: <i>Gargantua and Pantagruel</i> | Virginia Woolf: "A Room of One's Own" |
| Montaigne: <i>Essays</i> | Kafka: "The Metamorphosis" |
| Cervantes: <i>Don Quixote</i> | Eliot: "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock,"
<i>The Waste Land, Four Quartets</i> |
| Moliere: <i>Tartuffe</i> | Camus: "The Guest" |
| Swift: "A Modest Proposal" | Beckett: <i>Endgame</i> |