



HILLSDALE COLLEGE

High School Reading List

This is a partial list of books and authors recommended for high school students by the English Department at Hillsdale College. By no means is the list comprehensive, exhaustive or complete. It is intended as a general guide, a list of authors and texts that illustrates the kinds of literature students can consider valuable and important in preparation for college. Students who enjoy Dostoevsky, for instance, might also wish to explore the works of Tolstoy. Likewise, the tragedy Oedipus should suggest a number of classical Greek dramatists and plays.

Note that many of these texts may be studied in college as well. The inherent quality of such works, as well as the manner and depth of college study, renders them eminently worthy of multiple readings.

Classical antiquity:

The Bible (selections from Old and New Testaments)

Homer: *The Odyssey*

Sophocles: *Oedipus Rex*

Virgil: *The Aeneid*

English literature:

Anon.: *Beowulf*

Chaucer: *The Canterbury Tales* (selections)

Anon.: *Everyman*

Shakespeare: selected plays and sonnets

Donne: selected poems

Milton: *Lycidas* and *Paradise Lost*

Pope: *The Rape of the Lock*

Swift: "A Modest Proposal" and *Gulliver's Travels*

Wordsworth and Coleridge: lyrical ballads

Keats: odes

Dickens: *A Tale of Two Cities*

Emily Brontë: *Wuthering Heights*

Joyce: *Dubliners*

Conrad: selected stories

D.H. Lawrence: selected stories

American literature:

Franklin: *Autobiography*

Irving: selected tales

Thoreau: "On Civil Disobedience" and *Walden*

Hawthorne: selected tales and *The Scarlet Letter*

Poe: selected poems and tales

Twain: *Huckleberry Finn*

James: *The Turn of the Screw*

Dickinson: selected poems

Melville: selected tales

Whitman: *Leaves of Grass*

Frost: selected poems

Hemingway: *In Our Time*

Fitzgerald: *The Great Gatsby*

Faulkner: *The Unvanquished*

Steinbeck: *Grapes of Wrath*

Eliot: selected poems