List of Representative Great Books

**THIS LIST** is an illustration of the kinds of works students read and study in Hillsdale College’s core classes in English: ENG 104 (Great Books in the Western Tradition), ENG 105 (Great Books in the British and American Traditions), and ENG 201 (Great Books in Continental Literature). 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 the College’s core English classes.

**ENGLISH 104**

Homer: *The Odyssey, The Iliad*
Aeschylus: *Oresteia*
Sophocles: *Oedipus the King, Antigone*
Euripides: *Medea*
Plato: *The Apology of Socrates, Phaedo*
Aristotle: *Poetics*
Virgil: *The Aeneid*
Old Testament: *Genesis, Job, Psalms*
St. Augustine: *Confessions*
St. Benedict: *Rule*
Chaucer: *The Canterbury Tales*
Dante: *The Divine Comedy*

**ENGLISH 105**

Anon.: *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*
Anon.: *Everyman*
Shakespeare: *Hamlet, Othello*
Castiglione: *The Book of the Courtier*
Swift: “A Modest Proposal”
Pope: *The Rape of the Lock; An Essay on Man*
Blake: selected poetry
Wordsworth: selected poetry
Coleridge: selected poetry
Shelley: selected poetry
Keats: selected poetry
Yeats: selected poetry
James Joyce: “The Dead”
*The Waste Land, Four Quartets*
Beckett: *Endgame*
Virginia Woolf: “A Room of One’s Own”
Emerson: selected essays
Hawthorne, selected short stories and *The Scarlet Letter*
Melville: “Bartleby” and *Moby Dick*
Thoreau: *Walden*
Whitman: selected poetry
Dickinson: selected lyrics
Frost: selected poetry
Faulkner: selected fiction
O’Connor: selected short stories

**ENGLISH 201**

Petrarch: Sonnets
Erasmus: *The Praise of Folly*
Machiavelli: *The Prince*
Montaigne: Essays
Cervantes: *Don Quixote*
Rousseau: *Confessions*
Rabelais: *Gargantua and Pantagruel*
Moliere: *Tartuffe*
Voltaire: *Candide*
Goeth: *Faust*
Heine: lyric poems
Dostoevsky: *Notes from Underground*
Tolstoy: *The Death of Ivan Illyich*
Baudelaire: selected poetry
Ibsen: *Hedda Gabler*
Chekhov: *The Cherry Orchard*
Freud: “Dora”
Mann: “Death in Venice”
Kafka: *The Metamorphosis*
Camus: “The Guest”
Solzhenitsyn: *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*