

**COR JESU ACADEMY**  
**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT**  
**Summer Reading List: 2008-2009**



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!**

**EN 100: Introduction to Composition and Literature**

	<b>Title &amp; Author</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>REQUIRED:</b>	<i>A Separate Peace</i> Knowles, Jonathan	Set during the early years of WWII, this tale deals with the story of two boys and their relationship over a summer at school.
<b>READ AT LEAST TWO OF THESE:</b>	<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>A Raisin in the Sun</i> Hansberry, Lorraine	A drama that portrays the dreams, aspirations, & value system of a poor black family struggling to find its place in a society controlled by whites, while still maintaining its identity
	<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>Animal Farm</i> Orwell, George	This famous allegory tells what happens after the "pigs" on the farm oust the humans.
	<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>The Catcher in the Rye</i> Salinger, J.D.	A novel in which a prep school dropout rejects the "phoniness" he sees all about him

**EN 200: World Literature**

	<b>Title &amp; Author</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>REQUIRED:</b>	<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?
<b>READ AT LEAST TWO OF THESE:</b>	<i>Things Fall Apart</i> Achebe, Chinua	The setting of this novel is eastern Nigeria in the late 1800s and early 1900s, just prior to and during the British expansion into Umuofia which has to deal with the struggle and transformation of traditional Igbo society under British colonialism.
	<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, &amp; Day</i> Wiesel, Eli	Wiesel gives a semi-autobiographical account of a teenager's experiences in a concentration camp during the Holocaust.

## EN 300: American Literature

	<b>Title &amp; Author</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>REQUIRED:</b>	<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.
<b>READ AT LEAST TWO OF THESE:</b>	<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>Brave New World</i> Huxley, Aldous	An imaginative & amoral picture of life in the future, particularly shocking because many destructive values in the novel can be seen in contemporary society.
	<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 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>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

	<b>Title &amp; Author</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>REQUIRED READING:</b>	<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.
<b>REQUIRED VIEWING:</b>	<i>Glory</i> Zwick, Edward, Dir.	

## EN 400: British Literature

	<b>Title &amp; Author</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>REQUIRED:</b>	<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.
<b>HIGHLY SUGGESTED</b> <b>Read at least ONE of these:</b>	<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>A Man for All Seasons</i> Bolt, Robert	Sir Thomas More is asked to advise King Henry VIII whom wishes to divorce Catherine of Aragon. More questions the fact that he may be jeopardizing his immortal soul for the request of a mortal kind. The Common Man, who narrates the play, draws the audience into the dilemma.
	<i>Brave New World</i> Huxley, Aldous	A dystopian novel by Aldous Huxley, first published in 1932. Set in London in 2349, the novel anticipates developments in reproductive technology, biological engineering, and sleep-learning that combine to change society.
	<i>The Once &amp; 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.

## EN 401: Women in Film and Fiction

	<b>Title &amp; Author</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>REQUIRED:</b>	<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.

## EN 403: Literature in the Cinema

	<b>Title &amp; Author</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>REQUIRED:</b>	<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

## EN 404: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Best Sellers

	<b>Title &amp; Author</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>REQUIRED:</b>	<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 551: AP English Language and Composition/ACC Rhetoric

	<b>Title &amp; Author</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>REQUIRED:</b>	<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.

## EN 555: ACC Introduction to Literature

	<b>Title &amp; Author</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>REQUIRED:</b>	<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.
<b>HIGHLY SUGGESTED</b> <b>Read at least ONE of these:</b>  ** 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>The Bluest Eye</i> Morrison, Toni**	Morrison's first novel of an eleven-year-old African-American girl, Pecola Breedlove, who longs to be "beautiful" according to the standards of her American society
	<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 Right Stuff</i> Wolfe, Tom	Wolfe's nonfiction account of seven American astronauts and their quest to beat the Russians as the first in space.