Concord Christian Academy

High School Suggested Reading List

Classic American Literature focus

Classic American Literature -- Fiction

- Alcott, Louisa May, *Little Women*
- Alger, Horatio
- Anderson, Sherwood, *Winesburg, Ohio*
- Cather, Willa
  - My Antonia
  - O Pioneers!
  - Death Comes for the Archbishop
- Chopin, Kate
- Cooper, James Fennimore, *The Last of the Mohicans*
- Crane, Stephen
  - Red Badge of Courage
  - Maggie: A Girl of the Streets
- Harte, Bret, *Outcasts of Poker Flat*
- Hawthorne, Nathaniel
  - Rappaccini's Daughter
  - The House of Seven Gables
  - The Minister's Black Veil
  - The Scarlet Letter
  - Young Goodman Brown
- Henry, O., *Gift of the Magi*
- Holmes, Oliver Wendell
- Irving, Washington, *The Devil and Tom Walker*
- James, Henry
  - Daisy Miller
  - Portrait of a Lady
  - The Turn of the Screw
- Lewis, Sinclair, *Babbitt*
- London, Jack, *Call of the Wild*
- Melville, Herman
  - Bartleby
  - Benito Cereno
  - Billy Budd
  - Moby Dick
- Norris, Frank, *McTeague*
- Poe, Edgar Allan
  - Fall of the House of Usher
  - The Pit and the Pendulum
- Stowe, Harriet Beecher, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*
- Twain, Mark
  - Huckleberry Finn
  - Pudd'nhead Wilson
  - The Prince and the Pauper

Contemporary American Literature -- Fiction

- Anaya, Rudolfo A., *Bless Me, Ultima*
- Baldwin, James, *Go Tell It on the Mountain*
- Borland, Hal, *When the Legends Die*
- Bradbury, Ray
  - Fahrenheit 451
  - The Martian Chronicles
- Bryant, Dorothy, *Miss Giardino*
- Buck, Pearl, *The Good Earth*
- Cisneros, Sandra, *The House on Mango Street*
- Clark, Walter Van Tilburg, *Ox-bow Incident*
- Clavell, James, *The Children's Story*
- Cormier, Robert
  - After the First Death
  - I Am the Cheese
  - The Chocolate War
- Craven, Margaret, *I Heard the Owl Call My Name*
- Dos Passos, John
- Ellison, Ralph, *Invisible Man*
- Faulkner, William
  - The Light in August
  - The Bear
- Fitzgerald, F. Scott, *The Great Gatsby*
- Gaines, Ernest J., *The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman*
- Gardner, John, *Grendel*
- Gibson, William, *The Miracle Worker*
- Guest, Judith, *Ordinary People*
- Hailey, Alex, *Roots*
- Hale, E. E.
- Hemingway, Ernest
  - A Farewell to Arms
  - For Whom the Bell Tolls
  - The Sun Also Rises
  - The Old Man and the Sea
  - In Our Time
  - In Another Country
  - The Short Happy Life of Francis Macomber
  - The Killers
- Heller, Joseph, *Catch-22*
- Hersey, John, *Hiroshima*
- Hinton, S. E., *The Outsiders*
- Hurston, Zora Neale, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*
- Kesey, Ken, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*
- Keyes, Daniel, *Flowers for Algernon*
- Kim, Richard
  - Martyred
- Kincaid, Jamaica, *Annie John*
• Knowles, John, **A Separate Peace**  
  *(Continued next page)*  
• Lee, Harper, **To Kill a Mockingbird**  
• Malamud, Bernard, **The Assistant**  
• Marshall, Paule, **Brown Girl, Brownstones**  
• McCullers, Carson  
  **The Heart is a Lonely Hunter**  
  **The Ballad of the Sad Cafe: The Novels and Stories of Carson McCullers**  
• Mitchell, Margaret, **Gone with the Wind**  
• Momaday, N. Scott, **House Made of Dawn**  
• Morrison, Toni  
  **Beloved**  
  **Song of Solomon**  
  **Sula**  
  **The Bluest Eye**  
• Naylor, Gloria, **Brown Girl, Brownstones**  
• Neihardt, John, **Black Elk Speaks**  
• O'Connor, Flannery  
• Okada, John  
  **No-No Boy**  
• Peck, Richard  
  **Remembering the Good Times**  
• Peck, Robert Newton, **A Day No Pigs Would Die**  
• Plath, Sylvia, **The Bell Jar**  
• Porter, Katherine Anne, **Noon Wine**  
• Potok, Chaim, **The Chosen**  
• Rawlings, Marjorie Kinnan, **The Yearling**  
• Richter, Conrad, **Light in the Forest**  
• Rivera, Tomas, **And the Earth Did Not Part**  
• Ronyyoung, Kim, **Clay Walls**  
• Salinger, J. D., **Catcher in the Rye**  
• Saroyan, William, **The Human Comedy**  
• Schaeffer, Jack  
  **Shane**  
• Steinbeck, John  
  **The Grapes of Wrath**  
  **Of Mice and Men**  
  **The Pearl**  
• Uchida, Yoshiko, **Picture Bride**  
• Updike, John, **Centaur**  
• Vonnegut, Kurt  
  **Slaughterhouse Five**  
  **Cat's Cradle**  
• Walker, Alice, **The Color Purple**  
• Warren, Robert Penn, **All the King's Men**  
• Welty, Eudora  
• Wiesel, Elie, **Night**  
• Wright, Richard  
  **Native Son**  
  **Black Boy**  
• Zindel, Paul, **The Pigman**  

**Drama**  
• Agee, James, **Death in the Family**  
• Albee, Edward  
  **American Dream**  
  **Zoo Story**  
  **Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf**  
• Anderson, Robert, **I Never Sang for My Father**  
• Chin, Frank, **The Chickencoop Chinaman and The Year of the Dragon: Two Plays**  
• Elder, Lonne, **Ceremonies in Dark Old Men**  
• Frank, Anne with B. M. Mooyaart (translator), **Diary of Anne Frank**  
• Fugard, Athol, **Master Harold and the Boys**  
• Gibson, William, **The Miracle Worker**  
• Hansberry, Lorraine, **A Raisin in the Sun**  
• Hellman, Lillian, **The Little Foxes**  
• Laurents, Arthur, **West Side Story**  
• Lawrence, Jerome and Robert E. Lee  
  **Inherit the Wind**  
  **The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail**  
• Lum, Wing Tek, **Oranges are Lucky**  
• McCullers, Carson, **The Member of the Wedding**  
• Medoff, Mark, **Children of a Lesser God**  
• Miller, Arthur  
  **Death of a Salesman**  
  **The Crucible**  
• O'Neill, Eugene  
  **Anna Christie**  
  **The Emperor Jones**  
  **The Hairy Ape**  
  **The Iceman Cometh**  
  **Long Day's Journey Into Night**  
• Rose, Reginald, **Twelve Angry Men**  
• Sakamoto, Edward  
  **In the Alley**  
• Simon, Neil  
  **Barefoot in the Park**  
  **Brighton Beach Memoirs**  
  **Broadway Bound**  
  **The Odd Couple**  
  **They're Playing Our Song**  
• Valdez, Luis, **Zoot Suit**  
• Vidal, Gore, **A Visit to a Small Planet**  
• Wilder, Thornton, **Our Town**  
• Williams, Tennessee  
  **A Streetcar Named Desire**  
  **The Glass Menagerie**  
  **Cat on a Hot Tin Roof**  
• Wilson, August, **Fences**
The Works of C.S. Lewis

Mere Christianity (1952)
A compilation and enlargement of the BBC broadcast talks in which Lewis defends Christianity. It is one of the most cogent defenses of Christianity in the last century.

The Screwtape Letters (1942, Screwtape Proposes a Toast added in 1961)
Originally published in a British newspaper, The Screwtape Letters became an instant success because of its insight into the human condition and the temptations humans encounter. Written in a creative and ingenious way, The Screwtape Letters is a compilation of letters from a devil named Screwtape to his nephew Wormwood, an inexperienced tempter. This is perhaps one of Lewis's most successful works.

A Grief Observed (1961)
After the death of Lewis's wife Joy Davidman, Lewis struggled with his grief. Writing A Grief Observed was cathartic for the widower, but he was ashamed of his struggles with grief. With the hope that none would stumble on account of his questions, he initially published it under the pseudonym, N. W. Clerk. It is a work which continues to inspire those struggling with issues relating to the loss of a loved one.

Surprised By Joy: The Shape of My Early Life (1955)
In this unique but limited autobiography, Lewis describes his development from childhood and teen years through to his conversion. Citing his education in classic literature, his fascination with myth, and formative events in his early life, Lewis sets the stage for his search for joy.

The Great Divorce: A Drama (1945)
Inspired by Dante's Inferno, Lewis wrote his own fictitious rendering of hell. The narrator takes a bus ride to the netherworld to be led by Lewis's "Virgil," George MacDonald. Insightful and witty, Lewis pinpoints the foundations of hell and those who are in it.

Out of the Silent Planet (1938)
The first of Lewis's space-trilogy. In this story, Ransom is kidnapped by a mad scientist named Dr. Weston who takes him to Mars as a sacrifice to the native Martians. Followed by Perelandra, and That Hideous Strength.

Perelandra: A Novel (1943)
The second of Lewis's space-trilogy. Ransom is taken to Venus (what the natives call Perelandra), and is witness to a parallel of Earth's Garden of Eden. Instead of Satan as a snake, tempting the uncorrupted, the evil intruder is the mad scientist, Dr. Weston.

That Hideous Strength: A Modern Fairy-Tale for Grown-Ups (1945)
The third and final of Lewis's space-trilogy. Back in England, we find scientist friends of Weston starting an institute which parallels the Tower of Babel. Their founding of the institute, N.I.C.E. (National Institute of Co-ordinated Experiments), is an organization whose aim it is to control all aspects of nature.

The Pilgrim's Regress: An Allegorical Apology for Christianity, Reason and Romanticism (1933)
Lewis's version of John Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress. Part autobiographical, and part allegory, Lewis's "Christian," John, finds himself on a journey to the enchanted island, encountering various modern philosophies which hinder him as he goes.

Letters to Malcolm: Chiefly on Prayer (1964)
The last of Lewis's works. Lewis writes as one writing letters to a close friend on the subject of prayer.

Dorothy Sayers

- **Mystery Book, the** (1934)
- **Treasury of Great Mysteries, Volume 2, a** (1957)
- **Great Detective Stories** (1965)
- **Alfred Hitchcock Presents: Stories Not for the Nervous** (1965)
- **Book of Cats, the** (1976)
- **Best Crime Stories, the** (1977)
- **Detection** (1978)
- **Web She Weaves, the** (1983)
- **Masterpieces of Mystery and Suspense** (1988)
- **Crime Classics: the Mystery Story from Poe to the Present** (1990)
- **Oxford Book of English Detective Stories, the** (1990)
- **Murder Most Cozy** (1993)
- **More Mystery Cats** (1995)
- **Great Tales of Crime and Detection** (1993)
- **Murder Most Medical** (1995)
- **Murder by the Book** (1995)
- **Murder Most British** (1996)
- **Murderous Schemes** (1996)

Fiction

- **Murder at Teatime** (1996)
- **Detective Duos** (1997)
- **Popular Fiction: An Anthology** (1997)
- **Detective Stories** (1998)
- **Sleuths of the Century** (2000)

Novels:

- **Whose Body?** (1923)
- **Clouds of Witness** (1926)
- **Unnatural Death** (1927)
- **Unpleasantness at the Bellona Club, the** (1928)
- **Strong Poison** (1930)
- **Documents in the Case, the** (1930)
- **Five Red Herrings** (1931)
- **Have His Carcase** (1932)
- **Murder Must Advertise** (1933)
- **Nine Tailors, the** (1934)
- **Gaudy Night** (1935)
- **Busman's Honeymoon** (1937)
- **Thrones, Dominations** (1998)
- **Presumption of Death, a** (2002)
Austen, Jane, *Pride and Prejudice*
Bennett, Arnold, *The Old Wives' Tale*
Blackmore, R. D., *Lorna Doone*
Bronte, Charlotte, *Jane Eyre*
Bronte, Emily, *Wuthering Heights*
Bunyan, John, *Pilgrim's Progress*
Butler, Samuel, *The Way of All Flesh*
Carroll, Lewis, *Alice in Wonderland*
Christie, Agatha
Clarke, Arthur C., *Childhood's End*
Collins, Wilkie, *The Moonstone*
Dickens, Charles, *Great Expectations*
Dostoevsky, Fyodor, *The Idiot*
Galdós, Benito, *The Third of May* (Spanish)
Hesse, Hermann, *The Glass Bead Game* (German)
Huxley, Aldous, *Brave New World*
Joyce, James, *Ulysses*
Kipling, Rudyard, *Kim*
Lawrence, D.H., *The Rocking Horse Winner*
Munro, H. H., *The Complete Works of Saki*
Orwell, George, *1984*
Shelley, Mary, *Frankenstein*
Sillitoe, Alan, *Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner*
Sterne, Laurence, *Tristam Shandy*
Stevenson, Robert Louis, *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*