

## NON-FICTION TITLES

Gunther, John. *Death Be Not Proud*, 1949. A memoir of John Gunther's 17-year-old son, who died after a series of operations for a brain tumor.  
Call # B GUN

X, Malcolm. *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*, 1965. The personal story of the man who rose from hoodlum, thief, dope peddler, and pimp to become a leader of the Black Revolution of the 1960s.  
Call # B MAL

Freud, Sigmund. *The Interpretation of Dreams*, 1913. Discusses the method of dream interpretation, the dream as wish fulfillment, distortion in dreams, sources of dreams, dream-work, and the psychology of the dream processes.  
Call # 154.6 FRE

Brown, Claude. *Manchild in the Promised Land*, 1965. An autobiography of a young black man raised in Harlem. A realistic description of life in the ghetto including the plague of heroin addiction.  
Call # 301.451 BRO

Diamond, Jared. *Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed*, 2005. Describes how and why ancient civilizations failed and fell into ruin.  
Call # 304.2 DIA

Winchester, Simon. *The Meaning of Everything*, 2003. The story of the man who wrote the *Oxford English Dictionary*.  
Call # 423.09 WIN

Hawking, Stephen. *A Brief History of Time*, 1988. Provides an introduction to today's scientific ideas about the cosmos and reviews past theories. Also covers black holes, quarks, antimatter, and other mysteries of physics.  
Call # 523.1 HAW

Winchester, Simon. *Krakatoa*, 2003. In August 1883 a volcanic eruption, followed by a tsunami off the coast of Java killed 40,000 people. The author brings new perspective to this event.  
Call # 551.21 WIN

Gardner, Helen. *Gardner's Art Through the Ages*. All of the art history that you will ever need.  
Call # 709 G227

Thoreau, Henry David. *Walden*. Thoreau's journal, expressing his philosophy of life and observations of nature, drawn from his solitary sojourn of two years in a cabin on Walden Pond near Concord, Mass.  
Call # 818.3 THO

*The Best Poems of the English Language*, 2004. Harold Bloom edits this collection of British and American poetry across the ages.  
Call # 821.008 BES

Khayyam, Omar. *Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam*. A collection of poems written by the 11th-century philosopher, mathematician, and astronomer.  
Call # 891.5 O54

McCullough, David. *1776*. A comprehensive history of the American Revolution, George Washington, and those who followed him.  
Call # 973.3 MCC

### P l y m o u t h   R e g i o n a l H i g h   S c h o o l

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## P l y m o u t h R e g i o n a l   H i g h S c h o o l   L i b r a r y

# Challenging Reads



A sampling of classic literature you will see at the college level.

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## Authors to read for the college bound...

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Jane Austen  
Ray Bradbury  
Charlotte & Emily Bronte  
Albert Camus  
Joseph Conrad  
Charles Dickens  
Fyodor Dostoyevsky  
William Faulkner  
F. Scott Fitzgerald  
Nathaniel Hawthorne  
Ernest Hemingway  
Hermann Hesse  
James Joyce  
Toni Morrison  
John Steinbeck  
Robert Louis Stevenson  
Mark Twain  
Ivan Turgenev  
Virginia Woolf

### CLASSIC FICTION

Austen, Jane. *Pride and Prejudice*, 1813. This witty comedy of manners explores the intricacies of courtship in 18th-century England.

Bradbury, Ray. *Fahrenheit 451*, 1951. Enter a futuristic world where reading is prohibited because it stimulates thought, and firemen "protect" society by burning books.

Brontë, Charlotte. *Jane Eyre*, 1847. Jane Eyre, a penniless orphan, is engaged as governess by a mysterious man.

Brontë, Emily. *Wuthering Heights*, 1847. One of the first gothic novels. Passion, hate, and revenge abound in the turbulent story of Heathcliff and Catherine's obsessive love.

Cather, Willa. *My Ántonia*, 1918. Soulful portrait of Ántonia Shimerda, a Czech immigrant who faces heartbreak, disillusionment, and social ostracism in frontier Nebraska.

Conrad, Joseph. *Heart of Darkness*, 1902. A harrowing expedition into the heart of the Belgian Congo becomes a journey into human depravity. (This novella was the inspiration for Francis Ford Coppola's movie, "Apocalypse Now.")

Ellison, Ralph. *Invisible Man*, 1952. An anonymous African-American describes how he became an "invisible man."

Gaines, Ernest J. *A Lesson Before Dying*, 1993. In a small community in the late 1940's, a retarded young black man is wrongly convicted of murder and condemned to death.

García Márquez, Gabriel. *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, 1967. Tragic yet comic tale of the birth and death of the mythical town of Macondo, told through the history of the Buendía family.

Heller, Joseph. *Catch-22*, 1961. A masterpiece of black humor which satirizes the murderous insanity of war. John Yossarian is caught-up in schemes to outwit the army.

Hurston, Zora Neale. *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, 1937. Independent and articulate, Janie Crawford is determined to be her own person, no mean feat for a black woman in the 1930's.

Huxley, Aldous. *Brave New World*, 1932. In this brave, new world, children are born in test tubes and processed by an assembly line.

James, Henry. *The Turn of the Screw and Other Stories*, 1898. "The Turn of the Screw" is a horrifying and mystifying ghost story, blending the supernatural with terror.

Kafka, Franz. *The Metamorphosis*, 1915. "As Gregor Samsa awoke one morning from a troubled dream, he found himself changed in his bed to a monstrous insect." A horror story laced with mordant humor.

Kerouac, Jack. *On The Road*, 1957. the novel that defined the beat generation of the 1950s, in which Sal Paradise tells of his travels throughout North America in search of belief and meaning

Kesey, Ken. *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, 1962. Fast-talking con Randle Patrick McMurphy commits himself to a mental institution to avoid work, and matches wits with Nurse Ratched.

Maugham, Somerset. *The Razor's Edge*, 1944. Larry Darrell travels the world in search of meaning after experiencing the horrors of war.

Shelley, Mary Wollstonecraft. *Frankenstein: The Modern Prometheus*, 1818. Obsessed with the secret of creating life, Victor Frankenstein brings to life an eight-foot Monster he assembles from cadavers.

Sinclair, Upton. *The Jungle*, 1906. Describes the conditions of the Chicago stockyards through the eyes of a young immigrant struggling in America.

Solzhenitsyn, Aleksandr. *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*, 1962. Autobiographical memoir which depicts the brutality of Soviet forced labor camps

Vonnegut, Kurt. *Slaughterhouse-Five; or the Children's Crusade*, 1969. This Absurdist anti-war novel is based on Vonnegut's experiences as a POW. Billy Pilgrim survives the bombing of Dresden, then becomes "unstuck in time" after aliens from the planet Tralfamadore abduct him.

Warren, Robert Penn. *All the King's Men*, 1946. Political scandal, blackmail, and murder, with a Southern twist. Based indirectly on the life of Huey Long, the notorious Louisiana governor and senator.

Zusack, Markus. *The Book Thief*, 2006. Trying to make sense of the horrors of World War II, Death relates the story of Liesel--a young German girl whose book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding, as well as their neighbors.

