

GCISD English III Fall Semester Recommended Reading

Unit	Essential Question	Recommended Texts
Unit 1: Foundations and Encounters - Early American Literature	Why are we bound to certain places? What motivates people to explore the unknown? What does it mean to be a stranger in a strange land? What happens when cultures collide? When should personal integrity come before civic duty?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● “A Desperate Trek Across America” by Andres Resendez ● “The World on the Turtle’s Back” by Iroquois storytellers ● “Balboa” by Sabina Murray ● “Here Follow Some Verses Upon the Burning of Our House, July 10th, 1666” by Anne Bradstreet ● Excerpt from <i>Of Plymouth Plantation</i> by William Bradford ● “Coming of Age in the Dawnland from 1491” by Charles C. Mann ● <i>The Crucible</i> by Arthur Miller
Unit 2: The Individual and Society - Literature of the American Renaissance	In what ways do we seek to remain true to ourselves? How do we relate to the world around us? What do we secretly fear? When should we stop and reflect on our lives?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● “Last Child in the Woods” by Richard Louv ● Self-selected Book Club options <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>The Bluest Eye</i> by Toni Morrison ○ <i>I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings</i> by Maya Angelou
Unit 3: Building a Democracy - The Revolutionary Period	What does oppression look like? How do we gain our freedom? How can we share power and build alliances How do we transform our lives?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● “Thomas Jefferson: The Best of Enemies” by Ron Chernow ● American Experience: “Alexander Hamilton” video by PBS ● Additional optional texts available: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>The Declaration of Independence</i> by Thomas Jefferson ○ “A Soldier for the Crown” by Charles Johnson ○ Excerpt from <i>The Autobiography</i> by Benjamin Franklin ○ “On Being Brought from Africa to America” by Phillis Wheatley ○ “Sympathy” by Paul Laurence Dunbar ○ “Letter to John Adams” by Abigail Adams ○ Excerpt from “Lean In” by Sheryl Sandberg ○ “Speech to the Virginia Convention” by Patrick Henry ○ Excerpt from <i>The United States Constitution: Preamble and Bill of Rights</i> ○ Excerpt from <i>Poor Richard’s Almanack</i> by Benjamin Franklin ○ “Abigail Adams’ Last Act of Defiance” by Woody Holton ○ “Democracy” by Langston Hughes