SEATTLE ACADEMY

Required Summer Reading 2026-2027
Grades 6-12

Over the summer, Seattle Academy students read specific course-assigned books. Teachers will integrate summer reading into the course work during the first weeks of class and likely throughout the term. For each grade-level, teachers have provided a link to a reading guide to accompany the reading assignment, which will provide any needed instructions. As students will use these texts at the beginning of the year, they should purchase a new or used copy to bring with them for the first days of classes.

For general questions, please contact Jason Gough, the Chair of the English Department, at jgough@seattleacademy.org.

Additionally, we want to make sure that all students have access to summer reading texts. *If you need financial support to purchase the summer reading texts for English or History*, please email Jason Gough at the email address above and include the following information:

(1) Your full name.

(2) Your grade level during the 2026-2027 school year and the course you're enrolled in (for example: 6th grade / English 6 or 12th grade / English 12: Books to Film).

(3) Your full address (number, street, city, state, and zip code) where your text(s) should be mailed.

NOTE: All students are expected to closely and carefully consult the reading guides provided by faculty.

6th Grade Required Reading

- *The First Rule of Punk* by Celia C. Pérez
Reading guide included here

7th Grade Required Reading

- *For Every One* by Jason Reynolds
- One book of your choice

Reading guide included here

8th Grade Required Reading

- *I Must Betray You* by Ruta Sepetys

Reading guide included here

9th Grade Required Reading

- *Leaving Home*: *Stories* by Hazel Rochman & Darlene Z. McCampbell

Reading guide included here

10th Grade Required Reading

- *Station Eleven* by Emily St. John Mandel

Reading guide included here

11th Grade Required Readings
(please locate the course you will take, as indicated via email from registrar@seattleacademy.org)

11th Grade Standard English
- *All Systems Red: The Murderbot Diaries* by Martha Wells

Reading guide included here

11th Grade Honors English
- *Player Piano* by Kurt Vonnegut

Reading guide included here

11th Grade Honors History (required *only* for students taking this course for honors credit; students taking this course for standard credit do not have summer reading or an assignment to complete)

- *The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee: Native America from 1890 to the Present* by David Treuer
Reading guide included here

11th Grade Honors American Studies required reading list:
- *The Lathe of Heaven* by Ursula K. Le Guin (Scribner, 2008)
- *Into the Wild* by Jon Krakauer (Anchor Books, 1997)
- *American Dreams: The United States since 1945* by H.W. Brands (Penguin, 2011)
- *Capitalism and Freedom* by Milton Friedman (University of Chicago, 2020) – read the introduction and chapters 1, 2, 6, and 7
Reading guide included here

12th Grade Required Readings
(please locate the course you will take in the fall of 2026,
as indicated via email from registrar@seattleacademy.org)

Standard English 12 – The Intersection Of Art and Writing
- *Griffin and Sabine: An Extraordinary Correspondence* by Nick Bantock
Reading guide included here

Standard / Honors English 12 – Journaling as Creative Nonfiction: Writing the Interior
- *The Hurting Kind* by Ada Limón
Reading guide included here

Honors English 12 – Black Literature
- *Middle Passage* by Charles Johnson
Reading guide included here

Honors English 12 – Books to Film
- *Dune* by Frank Herbert
Reading guide included here

Honors English 12 – Epics and Adaptations
- *Circe* by Madeline Miller
Reading guide included here

Honors English 12 – Magical Realism
- *Haroun and the Sea of Stories* by Salman Rushdie
Reading guide included here

Honors English 12 – "Mirror, Mirror": Tradition, Transformation and Power in Folk and Fairy Tales
- *The Bloody Chamber* by Angela Carter
Reading guide included here

Honors English 12 – The Paranoid Imagination
- *Foucault's Pendulum* by Umberto Eco
Reading guide included here

Honors English 12 – Poetry and Nature: Capturing our World in a Word
- *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer, as follows:
    - Preface (ix)
    - "Planting Sweetgrass" (pgs. 3-59)
    - "Tending Sweetgrass" (pgs. 60-117)
    - "Picking Sweetgrass" (pgs. 118-201)

Reading guide included here

Honors English 12 –A Return to Reading for Enjoyment: Exploring Multi-Layered Forms of Literature
- *Generation X: Tales for an Accelerated Culture* by Douglas Coupland

Reading guide included here

Honors English 12 – Stay Gold: Reading and Writing the Coming of Age Story
- *The Catcher in the Rye* by J. D. Salinger

Reading guide included here