

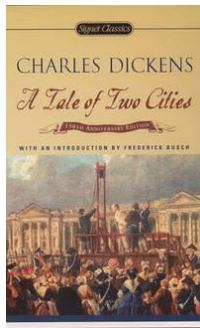
Summer Reading for Incoming 11th Graders

In-class response essay (first week of school)

Step 1: Choose and obtain one book from the list below to read over the summer.

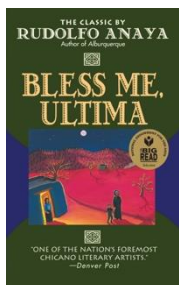
Step 2: As you read, consider the book's themes, characters, cultural or historical context, settings, and plot to prepare for an in-class writing assignment during the first week of classes. The in-class writing assignment will give you the opportunity to respond to the ideas in the text. You must be ready to write about the book during the first week of classes to earn full credit for the assignment.

A Tale of Two Cities by Charles Dickens



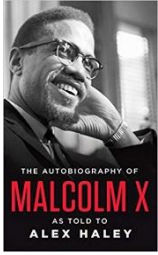
Charles Dickens's **A Tale of Two Cities** portrays a world on fire, split between Paris and London during the brutal and bloody events of the French Revolution. After eighteen years as a political prisoner in the Bastille the aging Dr Manette is finally released and reunited with his daughter in England. There, two very different men, Charles Darnay, an exiled French aristocrat, and Sydney Carton, a disreputable but brilliant English lawyer, become enmeshed through their love for Lucie Manette. From the tranquil lanes of London, they are all drawn against their will to the vengeful, bloodstained streets of Paris at the height of the Reign of Terror and soon fall under the lethal shadow of La Guillotine. (Provided by Penguin Classics).

Bless Me, Ultima Rudolpho Anaya



Set in rural New Mexico in the 1940s, the novel tells the story of a boy who learns to navigate the changing American landscape during World War II with the help of a *curandera* (spiritual healer) who guides him through the cultural, religious, and moral contradictions he faces in his community of farmers, priests, cowboys, and soldiers. Like his protagonist, Rudolpho Anaya grew up in a New Mexico community heavily influenced by both Catholicism and spiritual healers, with a *vaquero* (cowboy) father and three older brothers who went off to war in their youth. Anaya is an “extraordinary storyteller” that has “always written unpretentiously but provocatively about identity. (National Endowment for the Arts)

The Autobiography of Malcolm X Malcolm X, Alex Haley, Attallah Shabazz



In the searing pages of this classic autobiography, originally published in 1964, Malcolm X, the Muslim leader, firebrand, and anti-integrationist, tells the extraordinary story of his life and the growth of the Black Muslim movement. His fascinating perspective on the lies and limitations of the American Dream, and the inherent racism in a society that denies its nonwhite citizens the opportunity to dream, gives extraordinary insight into the most urgent issues of our own time. It is essential reading for anyone who wants to understand America. (Provided by publisher)