Upper School
History Department
Required Summer Reading 2017
Grades 9 – 12

This is the list of required summer reading for your History classes in the 2017-2018 school year. Some classes have additional instructions so make sure to read carefully!

**9th Grade**

Ancient Cultures

Follow this link to complete your online summer reading packet including an activity.

**10th Grade**

Modern World History

*DaVinci’s Tiger* by L.M Elliott
ISBN: 978-0060744243

The young and beautiful daughter of a wealthy family, Ginevra longs to share her poetry and participate in the artistic ferment of Renaissance Florence but is trapped in an arranged marriage in a society dictated by men. The arrival of the charismatic Venetian ambassador, Bernardo Bembo, introduces Ginevra to a dazzling circle of patrons, artists, and philosophers. Bembo chooses Ginevra as his Platonic muse and commissions a portrait of her by a young Leonardo da Vinci. Posing for the brilliant painter inspires an intimate connection between them, one Ginevra only begins to understand. In a rich and vivid world of exquisite art with a dangerous underbelly of deadly political feuds, Ginevra faces many challenges to discover her voice and artistic companionship—and to find love.

*As you read, create a handwritten character list of "Who's Who" in the novel.*
Modern World History - Honors

*Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe
ISBN: 978-0385474542

*Things Fall Apart* tells two intertwining stories, both centering on Okonkwo, a “strong man” of an Ibo village in Nigeria. The first, a powerful fable of the immemorial conflict between the individual and society, traces Okonkwo’s fall from grace with the tribal world. The second, as modern as the first is ancient, concerns the clash of cultures and the destruction of Okonkwo’s world with the arrival of aggressive European missionaries. These perfectly harmonized twin dramas are informed by an awareness capable of encompassing at once the life of nature, human history, and the mysterious compulsions of the soul.

11th Grade

US History & AP US History

*Founding Brothers* by Joseph Ellis
ISBN: 978-037570524

In this landmark work of history, the National Book Award—winning author of *American Sphinx* explores how a group of greatly gifted but deeply flawed individuals—Hamilton, Burr, Jefferson, Franklin, Washington, Adams, and Madison—confronted the overwhelming challenges before them to set the course for our nation.

American Government and Constitutional Law

Follow this [link](#) to complete your summer reading assignment.

11th & 12th Grade
Beginning with B. F. Skinner and the legend of a child raised in a box, Slater takes us from a deep empathy with Stanley Milgram's obedience subjects to a funny and disturbing recreation of an experiment questioning the validity of psychiatric diagnosis. Previously described only in academic journals and textbooks, these often daring experiments have never before been narrated as stories, chock-full of plot, wit, personality, and theme.