BOSTON LATIN ACADEMY
SUMMER READING LIST 2009
CLASS I (GRADE 12)

A frequently repeated question on college applications and in interviews is, "What books have you read recently, and how have they influenced your life?" All of the books on this list will help you give a most impressive answer.

You are required to read five books, the one that is required and four others of your own choice. Use this list to guide your choices, but feel free to use other lists, such as those provided by your local library or the Boston Public Schools, as well. Format your summer reading notes according to the boxed outline on the right.

Outline
title
author
setting (*time & place*)
major characters
brief summary
theme (*author's message*)
personal reaction

Required Reading: 1984 — George Orwell

War

KILLER ANGELS	Michael Shaara
GOING AFTER CACCIATO	Tim O'Brien
THE THINGS THEY CARRIED	Tim O'Brien
PERFECT SOLDIERS (911 hijackers)	Terry McDermott
A LONG WAY HOME: MEMOIRS OF A BOY SOLDIER	Ishmael Beah
TERRORIST	John Updike

Sports

BANG THE DREAM SLOWLY (baseball)	Mark Harris
ELEVEN SECONDS (hockey)	Travis Roy
FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS (football)	H.G. Bissinger
THE TEAMMATES (baseball)	David Halbertstam
MONEYBALL (baseball)	Michael Lewis

Memoirs/ Autobiographical

PAULA	Isabel Allende
DUST TRACKS ON A ROAD	Zora Neale Hurston
OCTOBER SKY	Homer Hickman
GIFTED HANDS (YA)	Dr. Ben Carson
UNDER AND ALONE	William Queen
INFIDEL	Ayaan Hirsi Ali

Young Adult

IN COUNTRY	Bobbie Ann Mason
CEREMONY	Leslie Silko
REVIVING OPHELIA	Mary Pipher
THE LOVELY BONES	Alice Sebold
EXTREMELY LOUD AND INCREDIBLY CLOSE	Jonathan Safran Foer
MIDDLESEX	Jeffrey Eugenides

Multicultural/ Ethnic

KITE RUNNER (*Afghanistan*)	Khaled Hosseini
A THOUSAND SPLENDID SUNS	Khaled Hosseini
WOMEN OF THE SILK (*China*)	Gail Tsukiyama
THE SAMURAI'S GARDEN (*China, Japan*)	Gail Tsukiyama
ALBURQUERQUE	Rudolfo Anaya
THE RELUCTANT FUNDAMENTALIST	Mohsin Hamid
LIFE OF PI	Yann Martel

(over)

THE INHERITANCE OF LOSS	Kiran Desani
LOVE IN THE TIME OF CHOLERA	Gabriel García Márquez
BY THE LIGHT OF MY FATHER'S SMILE	Alice Walker
THE SECRET LIFE OF BEES	Sue Monk Kidd
MONKEY BRIDGE	Lan Cao
CARAMELO	Sandra Cisneros
THE MAN IN MY BASEMENT	Walter Mosley
SNOW IN AUGUST	Peter Hamill

Mystery

THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME	Mark Haddon
THE SHAPE SHIFTER	Tony Hillerman
THE CAT WHO KNEW SHAKESPEARE	Lilian Jackson Braun
BAD BUSINESS	Robert Parker
Q IS FOR QUARRY	Sue Grafton
THE INTELLIGENCER	Leslie Silbert
THE DANTE CLUB	Matthew Pearl

Social/ Political

EMPIRE FALLS	Richard Russo
ALL SOULS	Michael MacDonald
CONFESSIONS OF AN ECONOMIC HITMAN	John Perkins
ETERNAL HOSTILITY	Frederick Clarkson
INSIDE THE WIRE	Erick Saar
PRESIDENTIAL COURAGE	Michael Beschloss

Miscellaneous

A BRIEF HISTORY OF TIME (*non-fiction: science*)	Stephen Hawkins
THE IMMENSE JOURNEY (*non-fiction: science*)	Loren Eiseley
THE HISTORY OF LOVE	Nicole Krauss

Check out these contemporary best selling authors:

Cormac McCarthy	Jhumpa Lahiri	Joyce Carol Oates	Toni Morrison
Dean Koontz	Louise Erdrich	William Martin	Tom Clancy

PARENTAL SIGNATURE FORM

I verify that my son/daughter _____ has read the following books during the summer.

1._____

2._____

3._____

4._____

5._____

6._____

7._____

8._____

9._____

10._____

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Signature of Parent or Guardian

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