

BFUHS Social Studies Department
Our Reading Favorites and Recommendations

Mr. Divis' Favorites

Ishmael by Daniel Quinn

Providence by Daniel Quinn

Beyond Civilization by Daniel Quinn

Into the Wild by Jon Krakauer

Crime and Punishment by Fyodor
Dostoevsky

**Mrs. Amend's
Favorites**

*The Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural
History of Four Meals* by Michael
Pollan

Atlas Shrugged by Ayn Rand

The Vinland Sagas

*Cold War Mandarin: Ngo Dinh Diem
and the Origins of America's War in
Vietnam* by Seth Jacobs

*A People's History of the United
States* by Howard Zinn

Mr. Aube's Favorites

*A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a
Boy Soldier* by Ishmael Beah

First They Killed My Father by
Luong Ung

Johnny Got His Gun by Dalton
Trumbo

Brave New World by Aldous
Huxley

Ishmael by Daniel Quinn

Mr. Willis' Favorites

The Last Shot by Darcy Frey

Angels and Demons by Dan Brown

The Miracle of Saint Anthony by
Adrian Wojnarowski

Streams of Silver by R.A. Salvatore

The Red Badge of Courage by
Stephen Crane

The following are recommendations from the Social Studies
teachers for each class that students may wish to delve
deeper into...

AP US History

Worse Than Slavery by David Oshinsky

A Peculiar Institution by Kenneth Stampp

Roots by Alex Haley

Main Street by Sinclair Lewis

Arrowsmith by Sinclair Lewis

The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne

The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck

Profiles in Courage by John F. Kennedy

Where White Men Fear to Tread by
Russell Means

-account of the world of
contemporary Native America
through the eyes of Indian activist
Russell Means

Hiroshima by John Hersey

-personal, first hand accounts of
Japanese about the bombing of
Hiroshima in 1945

AP World History

Monkey: A Journey to the West retold by
David Kherdian

-a mythical tale from China that deals
with the powers of the heavens & the
will of the spirit world

King Leopold's Ghost by Adam Hochschild

-about the Belgian Congo and
African colonization in the mid-
1800s up to the early 1900s

First They Killed My Father by Luong Ung

-first-hand account of the Cambodian
genocide in the 1970s

Salt: A World History by Mark Kurlansky

-the history of the world told through
the commodity of salt

*A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy
Soldier* by Ishmael Beah

-first-hand account of a child soldier
during Sierra Leone's civil war in the
early 1990s

Johnny Got His Gun by Dalton Trumbo

-an injured soldier returning from
WWI & the devastating affects on his
life

Brave New World by Aldous Huxley

-a utopian society created by
reproductive technology

Anthem by Ayn Rand

-dystopian novel based on the
community, not the individual

The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini

-lives of two children in Afghanistan
from the Soviet invasion and war
through the reign of the Taliban

Animal Farm by George Orwell

-classic look at totalitarianism and
Russia under Stalin through
animals

	<p><i>Nineteen Eighty-four</i> by George Orwell -a dystopian novel about an oppressive, totalitarian regime</p> <p><i>All Quiet on the Western Front</i> by Erich Maria Remarque -novel about World War I from the perspective of a German soldier</p> <p><i>Rape of Nanking</i> by Iris Chang -detailed account of the brutality of the Rape of Nanking by the Japanese in the late 1930s</p> <p><i>Buddha's Warriors</i> by Mikel Dunham -focus on the Tibetan resistance to Chinese occupation in the 1940s and 1950s</p> <p><i>The Burning Tigris</i> by Peter Balakian -about the Armenian genocide of the late 1800s and early 1900s</p> <p><i>Hiroshima</i> by John Hersey -personal, first hand accounts of Japanese about the bombing of Hiroshima in 1945</p> <p><i>We Wish to Inform You That Tomorrow We Will be Killed With Our Families: Stories from Rwanda</i> by Philip Gourevitch -detailed account of the Rwandan genocide in the early 1990s</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>World History I</u></p> <p><i>Monkey: A Journey to the West</i> retold by David Kherdian -a mythical tale from China that deals with the powers of the heavens & the will of the spirit world</p> <p><i>1066: The Year of the Conquest</i> by David Howarth</p> <p><i>Impirium</i> by Robert Harris</p> <p><i>A World Lit Only by Fire</i> by William Manchester</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>AP European History</u></p> <p><i>Animal Farm</i> by George Orwell -classic look at totalitarianism and Russia under Stalin through animals</p> <p><i>Nineteen Eighty-four</i> by George Orwell -a dystopian novel about an oppressive, totalitarian regime</p> <p><i>All Quiet on the Western Front</i> by Erich Maria Remarque -novel about World War I from the perspective of a German soldier</p>

<p><i>I, Claudius</i> by Robert Graves</p> <p><i>The Mother Tongue</i> by Bill Bryson</p> <p><i>Zero: The Biography of a Dangerous Idea</i> by Charles Seife</p>	<p><i>Crime and Punishment</i> by Fyodor Dostoevsky -classic novel about life and society in the tumultuous mid- to late-1800s in Russia</p> <p><i>Slaughterhouse-Five</i> by Kurt Vonnegut -a science fiction novel about World War II from the perspective of an American POW in Germany, focusing on the bombing of Dresden in 1945</p> <p><i>Ordinary Men</i> by Christopher Browning -account of how ordinary Germans went on to become mass murderers in Poland during World War II</p> <p><i>Hitler's Pope</i> by John Cornwell -look at the relationship between the Catholic Church, specifically Pope Pius XII, and the Nazis in the 1930s and 1940s</p> <p><i>The Burning Tigris</i> by Peter Balakian -about the Armenian genocide of the late 1800s and early 1900s</p> <p><i>The Idiot</i> by Fyodor Dostoevsky -classic novel about Russian life and society in the late 1800s</p> <p><i>The Prince</i> by Niccolo Machiavelli -a political treatise from Florence in the early 1500s about what a ruler should be like and why</p> <p><i>The Praise of Folly</i> by Desiderius Erasmus -an humanist essay about the abuses of the Catholic Church and European monarchies during the 1500s in the Renaissance</p> <p><i>The Spanish Inquisition</i> by Joseph Perez -detailed account of the Spanish Inquisition in Spain from the 1400s-1600s</p> <p><i>Utopia</i> by Thomas More -early 1500s novel about an ideal society, critiquing the current</p>
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	<p>European society at the time</p> <p><i>Churchill's Folly</i> by Christopher Catherwood -account of Winston Churchill's role in the Middle East in the early 1900s, specifically in creating the country of Iraq</p> <p><i>The Picture of Dorian Gray</i> by Oscar Wilde -novel about a decadent Victorian era Britain in the late 1800s</p> <p><i>A Vindication of the Rights of Woman</i> by Mary Wollstonecraft -early feminist work written in the late 1700s detailing women's oppressed role in society</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>World Cultures</u></p> <p><i>Go and Come Back</i> by Joan Abelove -anthropologists from New York end up in a village in the Peruvian Jungle</p> <p><i>Yanomama: The Fierce People</i> by Napoleon Chagnon</p> <p><i>Animal Farm</i> by George Orwell -classic look at totalitarianism and Russia under Stalin through animals</p> <p><i>Surrender or Starve</i> by Robert Kaplan -a look into the issue of famine and starvation in Africa in the 1980s and its vast causes and effects</p> <p><i>Slave</i> by Mende Nazer -account of modern-day slavery of a Sudanese woman in Khartoum</p> <p><i>River Town</i> by Peter Hessler -an American perspective of living in China in the late 1990s, with a focus on the Three Gorges Dam</p> <p><i>A Mother's Ordeal</i> by Steven Mosher -first-hand account of China's one child policy</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>World History II</u></p> <p><i>Johnny Got His Gun</i> by Dalton Trumbo -an injured soldier returning from WWI & the devastating affects on his life</p> <p><i>Brave New World</i> by Aldous Huxley -a utopian society created by reproductive technology</p> <p><i>First They Killed My Father</i> by Luong Ung -first-hand account of the Cambodian genocide in the 1970s</p> <p><i>A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier</i> by Ishmael Beah -first-hand account of a child soldier during Sierra Leone's civil war in the early 1990s</p> <p><i>Shalimar the Clown</i> by Salman Rushdie</p> <p><i>Animal Farm</i> by George Orwell -classic look at totalitarianism and Russia under Stalin through animals</p> <p><i>Nineteen Eighty-four</i> by George Orwell -a dystopian novel about an oppressive, totalitarian regime</p>

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<p style="text-align: center;"><u>World Geography</u></p> <p><i>A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier</i> by Ishmael Beah -first-hand account of a child soldier during Sierra Leone's civil war in the early 1990s</p> <p><i>First They Killed My Father</i> by Luong Ung -first-hand account of the Cambodian genocide in the 1970s</p> <p><i>Surrender or Starve</i> by Robert Kaplan -a look into the issue of famine and starvation in Africa in the 1980s and its vast causes and effects</p> <p><i>Slave</i> by Mende Nazer -account of modern-day slavery of a Sudanese woman in Khartoum</p> <p><i>River Town</i> by Peter Hessler -an American perspective of living in China in the late 1990s, with a focus on the Three Gorges Dam</p> <p><i>The Fate of Africa</i> by Martin Meredith -detailed look into the African continent's post-independence challenges</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Survey of US History</u></p> <p><i>Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass</i> by Frederick Douglass</p> <p><i>The Jungle</i> by Upton Sinclair</p> <p><i>Burr</i> by Gore Vidal</p> <p><i>Lincoln</i> by Gore Vidal</p> <p><i>In Dubious Battle</i> by John Steinbeck</p> <p><i>Main Street</i> by Sinclair Lewis</p> <p><i>Elmer Gantry</i> by Sinclair Lewis</p> <p><i>Invisible Man</i> by Ralph Ellison</p> <p><i>Hiroshima</i> by John Hersey -personal, first hand accounts of Japanese about the bombing of Hiroshima in 1945</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Psychology and Sociology</u></p> <p><i>Everything Bad is Good for You</i> by Steven Johnson</p> <p><i>The Picture of Dorian Gray</i> by Oscar Wilde -novel about the internal conflict of</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>American Studies</u></p> <p><i>The Jungle</i> by Upton Sinclair</p> <p><i>Tortilla Flat</i> by John Steinbeck</p> <p><i>A People's History of the United States</i> by</p>

<p>morality, conscience, lust, and wealth</p> <p><i>One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest</i> by Ken Kesey -look into the psychology of mental patients and mental institutions in the US in the 1960s</p> <p><i>Go Ask Alice</i> – Anonymous -a story about a teenager who becomes addicted to drugs</p> <p><i>13 Reasons Why</i> by Jay Asher -a story about a suicide & coping with the tragedy</p> <p><i>Ishmael</i> by Daniel Quinn -a philosophical novel that examines indigenous societies in today's world, their effect on ethics, and how that relates to sustainability</p> <p><i>Hey Dummy</i> by Kin Platt -a story that involves the befriending of a brain-damaged boy, whose other friends & family struggle with the transition</p> <p><i>After the First Death</i> by Robert Cormier -a psychological thriller that deals with terrorism and its affects</p> <p><i>Sybil</i> by Flora Rheta Schreiber -a woman and her psychologist try to understand and cope with the world of multiple personalities</p>	<p>Howard Zinn</p> <p><i>The Civil War</i> by Ken Burns</p> <p><i>The Cold War</i> by Martin Walker</p> <p><i>Nisei Daughter</i> by Monica Sone</p> <p><i>America: A Narrative History</i> by George Tindall and David Shi</p> <p><i>Burr</i> by Gore Vidal</p> <p><i>Lincoln</i> by Gore Vidal</p> <p><i>In Dubious Battle</i> by John Steinbeck</p> <p><i>Main Street</i> by Sinclair Lewis</p> <p><i>Elmer Gantry</i> by Sinclair Lewis</p> <p><i>Invisible Man</i> by Ralph Ellison</p> <p><i>Where White Men Fear to Tread</i> by Russell Means -account of the world of contemporary Native America through the eyes of Indian activist Russell Means</p> <p><i>Hiroshima</i> by John Hersey -personal, first hand accounts of Japanese about the bombing of Hiroshima in 1945</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Economics</u></p> <p><i>The Mind of the Market</i> by Michael Shermer</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>20th cent. History through Film</u></p> <p><i>A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier</i> by Ishmael Beah -first-hand account of a child soldier during Sierra Leone's civil war in the early 1990s</p> <p><i>First They Killed My Father</i> by Luong Ung -first-hand account of the Cambodian genocide in the 1970s</p>

