

Gainesville High School Summer Reading List: 2025-2026

Students, please find the course for which you are registered. The books assigned for your course, as well as any assignments, must be completed by the time you return to school or otherwise indicated. Titles are available from bookstores, the public library, the GHS media center, and from sources online.

Grade 9

English I (read one)

Fire on High by Elizabeth Acevedo
Handbook for Boys by Walter Dean Myers
Scythe by Neil Shusterman

English I Honors (read one)

The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkein
The Chosen by Chaim Potok
Farewell to Manzanar by Jeanne Wakatsuki
Houston & James Houston

Cambridge (read both)

Born a Crime by Trevor Noah (either the Young Adult or regular version)
All We Have Left by Wendy Mills

Grade 10

English II (read one)

Touching Spirit Bear by Ben Mikaelson
Uglies by Scott Westerfeld
The Battle of Jericho by Sharon Draper

English II Honors (read one)

Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson (either the Young Adult or unabridged version)
Salt to the Sea by Ruta Sepetys

Cambridge (read both)

The Poisonwood Bible by Barbara Kingsolver
The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexi

Grade 11

English III (read one):

The Pact by Drs. Sampson Davis, George Jenkins & Rameck Hunt

The Glass Castle by Jeanette Walls

A Long Way Gone by Ishmael Beah

English III Honors (read one):

The Catcher in the Rye by J.D. Salinger

The Glass Castle by Jeanette Walls

A Raisin in the Sun by Lorraine Hansberry

AP Language & Composition (read both):

The Glass Castle by Jeanette Walls

Barracoon by Zora Neale Hurston

Cambridge (read both):

The Glass Castle by Jeanette Walls (memoir)

The Catcher in the Rye by J.D. Salinger (novel)

- **Additional assignment (one letter for each text):** Write a 400 word letter from the perspective of one character/person to another regarding an important issue/concern related to a major theme in the novel/memoir. You are expected to review the formatting, structure, and language expectations of a personal and/or business letter. Decide whether the character/person would write a personal vs. business letter and format your letter accordingly. Include relevant evidence from the text in the letter.

Grade 12

AICE English General Paper (read one):

The Color of Water by James McBride

Fences by August Wilson

AP Literature & Composition (read both):

How to Read Literature like a Professor by Thomas Foster

Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston

Cambridge (read both & complete academic resume):

Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? by Edward Albee

How to Read Literature Like a Professor by Thomas Foster

- **Additional assignment:** Complete a rough draft of an academic resume. Samples/templates are available on Mr. Mathews' website. You may use one of the sample templates or find another template more appealing to you. This is due Friday of the first week of school. There is also an assignment for GPR- instructions available on Mathews' website!