



## 2025 Northwood School Summer Reading

In a world where the 24-hour news cycle, online gaming, and social media constantly distract and compete for our attention, the faculty here at Northwood School believe in the power of reading to instill compassion, creativity, mindfulness, and well-being in our students.

Countless studies show that reading promotes empathy, imagination, neuron stimulation, and heightened connectivity in the left temporal cortex.

"The neural changes that we found associated with physical sensation and movement suggest that reading a novel can transport you into the body of the protagonist. We already knew that good stories can put you in someone else's shoes in a figurative sense. Now we're seeing that something else may be happening biologically." ---Gregory Berns, researcher and director of Emory University's Center for Neuropolicy.

Watching film adaptations or reading online summaries like SparkNotes, while potentially interesting and timesaving, cannot compare to engaging with and connecting to the texts themselves. Students will be cheating themselves, as well as infringing upon the Northwood Honor Code, by substituting these sources for actual reading. In other words, you are required to read the books. If so preferred, electronic (e-books) are acceptable for completing the readings. If students choose an audiobook version, we suggest listening while following along on the page.

With this in mind, we offer you this summer's list of required reading for returning and incoming Northwood School students. Please note that all students are required to read the books specific to the English course they are entering. Additionally Advanced and A.P. offerings have summer work. You will find details for the teachers of those courses on the final page of this document

Any questions can be directed to Noël Carmichael, Dean of Academic Affairs, [carmichaeln@northwoodschooll.org](mailto:carmichaeln@northwoodschooll.org).

Students enrolled in **Integrated Humanities I (Grade 9)** must read:

***Eyes Wide Open: Going Behind the Environmental Headlines* by Paul Fleischman**



“We're living in an Ah-Ha moment. Take 250 years of human ingenuity. Add abundant fossil fuels. The result: a population and lifestyle never before seen. The downsides weren't visible for centuries, but now they are. Suddenly everything needs rethinking — suburbs, cars, fast food, cheap prices. It's a changed world.

This book explains it. Not with isolated facts, but the principles driving attitudes and events, from vested interests to denial to big-country syndrome. Because money is as important as molecules in the environment, science is joined with politics, history, and psychology to provide the briefing needed to comprehend the 21st century.

Extensive back matter, including a glossary, bibliography, and index, as well as numerous references to websites, provides further resources. “ -- Fleischman, Paul. *Eyes Wide Open: Going Behind the Environmental Headlines*. United States, Candlewick Press, 2014.

Students enrolled in **Integrated Humanities II (Grade 10)** must read:

***Lord of the Flies* by William Golding**



When "Lord of the Flies" appeared in 1954 it received unprecedented reviews for a first novel. Critics used such phrases as "beautifully written, tragic and provocative... vivid and enthralling... this beautiful and desperate book... completely convincing and often very frightening... its progress is magnificent... like a fragment of nightmare... a dizzy climax of terror... the terrible spell of this book..." E.M. Forster chose it as the Outstanding Novel of the Year. "Time and Tide" touched upon perhaps the most important facet of this book when it said, "It is not only a first-rate adventure but a parable of our times, " and articles on this and subsequent Golding novels have stressed these twin aspects of Golding: a consummate control of the novel form, and a superb all-encompassing vision of reality which communicates itself with a power reminiscent of Conrad. Source: Publisher

Students enrolled in **American Literature** must read:

Student Choice! Read any novel of your choice **written by an American author that has been published in 2000 or later**. This should be a work of fiction. Be prepared to discuss and write about your choice. Any questions can be sent to: Mr. Felhaber at [felhaberj@northwoodschoo.org](mailto:felhaberj@northwoodschoo.org).

Students enrolled in **A World Made of Text** will be sent a packet of short stories and essays to read. If you have not received this email by June 15<sup>th</sup>, please contact Mr. Runyon at [runyonh@northwoodschoo.org](mailto:runyonh@northwoodschoo.org).

The following **A.P. and Advanced (dual enrollment) courses** also have summer assignments. If you are enrolled in any of these classes and have not yet heard from the teacher about the work required, please email them directly at the email address below.

#### **AP Language and Composition**

Mr. Howard Runyon [runyonh@northwoodschoo.org](mailto:runyonh@northwoodschoo.org)

#### **AP Literature and Composition**

Dr. Scott Campbell [campbells@northwoodschoo.org](mailto:campbells@northwoodschoo.org)

#### **AP United States History**

Mr. Simon Shergold [shergolds@northwoodschoo.org](mailto:shergolds@northwoodschoo.org)

#### **AP Statistics**

Mr. Bob Emery [emeryb@northwoodschoo.org](mailto:emeryb@northwoodschoo.org)

#### **AP Calculus**

Mr. Bob Emery [emeryb@northwoodschoo.org](mailto:emeryb@northwoodschoo.org)

**Advanced Biology**

Ms. Jill Walker [walkerj@northwoodschoo.org](mailto:walkerj@northwoodschoo.org)

**Advanced Physics: Principles of Engineering**

Mr. Benjamin LeBlanc [leblancb@northwoodschoo.org](mailto:leblancb@northwoodschoo.org)

**Advanced Psychology**

Mr. John Spear [spearj@northwoodschoo.org](mailto:spearj@northwoodschoo.org)

**Advanced STEM Research**

Ms. Jill Walker [walkerj@northwoodschoo.org](mailto:walkerj@northwoodschoo.org)

**Advanced Humanities Research**

Dr. Reid Smith [smithr@northwoodschoo.org](mailto:smithr@northwoodschoo.org)

*See you in September!*