

**St. Bernard's High School
English Department
Summer Reading List 2025**

Summer reading is assigned with the expectation that students will be ready to discuss the book when classes begin in August, and tests and papers will be given once school starts. **It would be wise for students to take some type of notes as they read.**

Students are expected to hand in, on the first day of school, a personal reflection on each work assigned. It should be 1-2 pages in length, and should include an understanding of why the book, as a whole, was written.

Whole School

All students, faculty, and staff will be reading *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson. Students can choose between reading the original version, or the young-adult adaptation, which is designed to make the story more accessible to younger audiences.

Incoming Freshmen

All Levels:

The Other Wes Moore by Wes Moore

To prepare to be a Sophomore

All Levels:

The Iliad (Graphic Novel) by Gareth Hinds

To prepare to be a Junior

AP Language and Composition - A total of **three** texts:

Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson (either the original text OR the edition adapted for Young Adult readers). ***Please note that while this text is assigned as the Whole-School Summer Reading book, it will be part of AP Language's class material and is required reading for this class.***

TWO non-fiction works (with literary merit) of student's own choosing

All Other Junior Levels:

A Raisin in the Sun by Lorraine Hansberry

To prepare to be a Senior

AP Literature:

Please see Mr. Gillis' page on Google Classroom for AP Literature book choices.

AP Language and Composition - A total of **three** texts:

Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson (either the original text OR the edition adapted for Young Adult readers). ***Please note that while this text is assigned as the Whole-School***

Summer Reading book, it will be part of AP Language's class material and is required reading for this class.

TWO non-fiction works (with literary merit) of student's own choosing

All Other Levels:

Lord of the Flies by William Golding