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RHETORIC SCHOOL COURSES OF STUDY

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## GREAT BOOKS, GREAT CONVERSATIONS, GREAT IDEAS

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Great books are those that have shaped and continue to influence the way we think today. They have stood the test of time. They are great because of their impact on humanity; not necessarily because everything they have said is great. Certain works, such as Darwin's *Origin of the Species* must be read in the context of study, though not necessarily in total. However, we also believe that certain subjects, such as science and math must be experienced and discussed if the subject is to be truly understood. We believe that learning cannot be separated from worldview or philosophy and therefore have endeavored to teach all subjects from a great books perspective so that our students' minds are renewed and our students are transformed. We have intentionally included as many of the great books as possible to be read, at least in part, within the context of each subject. We desire that our students be challenged, inspired and transformed by the community and conversation of this course of study. While we desire that all of these books will be read, we recognize that we may need to make priorities and have highlighted in gray those that will be first to be omitted if such action should be warranted.

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\* **COVENANT ACADEMY** \*

RHETORIC SCHOOL LANGUAGE ARTS GREAT BOOKS READING LISTS

<b>FRESHMAN GB I</b>				
<i>Chronological Periods: Origins through Ancient Greece</i>				
<u>Theology:</u> Church History	<u>Logic / Math:</u> Formal Logic Algebra I or Geometry	<u>History:</u> Ancient Civilizations	<u>Literature:</u> Great Books of Ancient Literature	<u>Science:</u> Biology
<i>The Church in Plain Language (Shelly)</i>  <i>First and Second Apology (Martyr)</i>  <i>Theological Orations (Nazianzus)</i>  <i>On the Holy Spirit (Basil of Caesarea)</i>  <i>On the Apostolic Preaching (Irenaeus)</i>  <i>On the Incarnation of the Word (Athanasius)</i>  <i>De Fide (Ambrose)</i>  <i>On Christian Doctrine (Augustine)</i>  <i>On Free Choice of the Will (Augustine)</i>	<i>The Argument Builder</i>  <i>Apology (Plato)</i>  <i>Selections from Pythagoras</i>  <i>Geometry (Euclid)</i>  <i>The Organon: The Works of Aristotle on Logic</i>	<i>The Essentials of Western Civilization (Cleveland)</i>  <i>The Histories (Herodotus)</i>  <i>The History of the Peloponnesian War (Thycydides)</i>  <i>Lives of Nine Greeks (Plutarch)</i>  <i>The Republic (Plato)</i>  <i>Politics (Aristotle)</i>  <i>Nicomachean Ethics (Aristotle)</i>	<i>The Bridge of San Luis Ray (Thorton Wilder)</i>  <i>Till We Have Faces (Lewis)</i>  <i>Epic of Gilgamesh</i>  <i>Illiad (Homer)</i>  <i>The Odyssey (Homer)</i>  <i>The Oresteia: Agamemnon (Aeschylus)</i>  <i>Three Theban Plays (Sophocles)</i>  <i>Selections from Mythology (Edith Hamilton)</i>	<i>Exploring Creation with Biology (Apologia)</i>  <i>Selected Works (Hippocrates, Galen)</i>  <i>On the Origin of the Species (Darwin)</i>

Note: 9<sup>th</sup> grade course work is reflected on the high school transcript. Students are still completing their Logic course of study while at the same time being introduced to the high school Great Books program. 9<sup>th</sup> grade at Covenant is a transition grade from Logic to Rhetoric. Students receive high school credit as they continue to develop requisite logic and rhetoric skills.

RHETORIC GREAT BOOKS READING LISTS, continued

<b>SOPHMORE / GB II</b>				
<i>Chronological Periods: The Romans through the Renaissance</i>				
<u><b>Theology:</b></u> Bibliology and Hermeneutics	<u><b>Math:</b></u> Algebra II	<u><b>History/Rhetoric:</b></u> The Romans Through the Renaissance	<u><b>Literature:</b></u> The Romans Through the Renaissance	<u><b>Science:</b></u> Introduction to Physics
<p><i>Read the Bible for a Change (Lubeck)</i></p> <p><i>On Christian Teaching (Augustine)</i></p> <p><i>Selections from Luther's, Aquinas', Jerome's and Spurgeon's Commentaries on the Bible</i></p>	<p><i>Algebra 2 (Pearson)</i></p> <p><i>Testimonies and Fragments (Xeno)</i></p>	<p><i>The Essentials of Western Civilization (Cleveland)</i></p> <p><i>Meditations (Aurelius)</i></p> <p><i>Praise of Folly (Erasmus)</i></p> <p><i>The Prince (Machiavelli)</i></p> <p><i>Utopia (More)</i></p> <p><i>Proslogion (Anselm)</i></p> <p><i>Consolation of Philosophy (Boethius)</i></p> <p><i>Lives- Roman (Plutarch)</i></p> <p><i>Ethics (Abelard)</i></p>	<p><i>On Friendship (Cicero)</i></p> <p><i>Aenid (Virgil)</i></p> <p><i>Selections from Confessions (Augustine)</i></p> <p><i>Beowulf</i></p> <p><i>Inferno (Dante)</i></p> <p><i>Purgatorio (Dante)</i></p> <p><i>Paradiso (Dante)</i></p> <p><i>Faerie Queen, Book 1 (Spencer)</i></p> <p><i>Dr. Faustus (Marlowe)</i></p> <p><i>Selected Plays and Sonnets (Shakespeare)</i></p>	<p><i>Introductory Physics (Mays)</i></p> <p><i>On the Revolutions of Heavenly Spheres Copernicus</i></p> <p><i>Physica (Aristotle)</i></p> <p><i>Principia (Newton)</i></p>

RHETORIC GREAT BOOKS READING LISTS, continued

<b>JUNIOR / GB III</b>				
<i>Chronological Periods: The Reformation through the Late 19<sup>th</sup> Century</i>				
<u><b>Theology:</b></u> Great Works of Apologetics and Worldview	<u><b>Rhetoric / Math:</b></u> Pre-Calculus	<u><b>History/Rhetoric:</b></u> Ideas That Shaped Modernity	<u><b>Literature:</b></u> The Reformation through the Late 19 <sup>th</sup> Century	<u><b>Science:</b></u> Chemistry
<p><i>How Should We Then Live?</i> (Schaeffer)</p> <p><i>Divine Foreknowledge</i> (Molina)</p> <p><i>The Analogy of Religion, Natural and Revealed</i> (Butler)</p> <p><i>Christian View of God and the World</i> (Orr)</p> <p><i>Mere Christianity</i> (Lewis)</p>	<p><i>Text TBD</i></p> <p><i>Pensees</i> (Pascal)</p> <p><i>Meditations on First Philosophy</i> (Descartes)</p> <p><i>Mathematician's Delight</i> (Sawyer)</p>	<p><i>The Essentials of Western Civilization</i> (Cleveland)</p> <p><i>Meditations on First Philosophy</i> (Descartes)</p> <p><i>Pensees</i> (Pascal)</p> <p><i>Groundwork for the Metaphysics of Morals</i> (Kant)</p> <p><i>Utilitarianism</i> (Mill)</p> <p><i>Leviathan Book I</i> (Hobbes)</p> <p><i>On the Social Contract</i> (Rousseau)</p> <p><i>Wealth of Nations</i> (Smith)</p> <p><i>Two Treatises on Government</i> (Locke)</p>	<p><i>Selections from Paradise Lost</i> (Milton)</p> <p><i>Songs of Innocence, Songs of Experience</i> (Blake)</p> <p><i>Selected Poems by William Wordsworth</i></p> <p><i>Selected Poems by Samuel Taylor Coleridge</i></p> <p><i>Sense and Sensibility</i> (Austen)</p> <p><i>Wuthering Heights</i> (Bronte)</p> <p><i>Jane Eyre</i> (Bronte)</p> <p><i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> (Dickens)</p> <p><i>Selected Poems by Alfred Lord Tennyson</i></p> <p><i>Idyls of the King</i> (Tennyson)</p> <p><i>Dracula</i> by Bram Stoker</p>	<p><i>General Chemistry</i> (Mays)</p> <p><i>Selected works by Joseph Priestly</i></p>

RHETORIC GREAT BOOKS READING LISTS, continued

<b>SENIOR / GB IV</b>				
<i>Chronological Periods: Late 19<sup>th</sup> Century through the Present Day</i>				
<b><u>Theology:</u></b> Great Works of Theology	<b><u>Math:</u></b> Calculus or Economics	<b><u>History/Rhetoric:</u></b> Modern History	<b><u>Literature:</u></b> Great Books of Modernity	<b><u>Science:</u></b> Advanced Biology, Chemistry or Physics
<p><i>He Is There and He is Not Silent</i> (Schaeffer)</p> <p><i>Mind of the Maker</i> (Sayers)</p> <p><i>The Bondage of the Will</i> (Luther)</p> <p><i>On Loving God</i> (Clairvaux)</p> <p><i>Selections from Calvin's Institutes</i></p> <p><i>A Brief Declaration and Vindication of the Doctrine of the Trinity</i> (Owen)</p> <p><i>Letters from Prison</i> (Bonhoeffer)</p> <p><i>Orthodoxy</i> (Chesterton)</p> <p><i>The Problem of Pain</i> (Lewis)</p> <p><i>Religious Affections: Concerning the Nature of Affections and Their Importance in Religion</i></p>	<p><i>Calculus</i> (Pearson)</p> <p><i>The Early Mathematical Manuscripts of Leibniz</i> (Leibniz, trans. by J. M. Child)</p>	<p><i>The Essentials of Western Civilization</i> (Cleveland)</p> <p><i>Reason and History</i> (Hegel)</p> <p><i>Fear and Trembling</i> (Kierkegaard)</p> <p><i>Twilight of the Idols</i> (Nietzsche)</p> <p><i>Manifesto of the Communist Party</i> (Marx)</p> <p><i>Age of Anxiety</i> (Auden)</p> <p><i>Are Women Human?</i> (Sayers)</p> <p><i>A Testament of Hope</i> (MLK, Jr)</p> <p><i>Civilization and Its Discontents</i> (Freud)</p>	<p><i>Short Stories</i> (Tolstoy)</p> <p><i>Crime and Punishment</i> (Dostoevsky)</p> <p><i>Four Quartets</i> (Eliot)</p> <p><i>Wasteland</i> (Eliot)</p> <p><i>Importance of Being Earnest</i> (Wilde)</p> <p><i>The Great Gatsby</i> (Fitzgerald)</p> <p><i>Old Man and the Sea</i> (Hemingway)</p> <p><i>Of Mice and Men</i> (Steinbeck)</p> <p><i>A Good Man is Hard to Find</i> (O'Connor)</p> <p><i>The Man Who Was Thursday</i> (Chesterton)</p> <p><i>That Hideous Strength</i> (Lewis)</p> <p><i>Brave New World</i> (Huxley)</p> <p>1984 (Orwell)</p>	<p><i>General Chemistry</i>, John D. Mays</p> <p><i>Selections from Principia</i> (Newton)</p>