

Colleton Preparatory Academy - 2024 Summer Reading for High School

*Over the summer, rising 9th, 10th, and 11th graders are required to read **one book** which must be completed by the first day of school.

*During the first week of school, students will complete an in-class assignment for the book; this will count as a major grade towards the first-quarter average.

*Please contact Mrs. Bray Campbell (bcampbell@colletonprep.org) for 9th and 10th grade and Mrs. Cameron Warner (cwarner@colletonprep.org) for 11th grade if you have any questions.

9th grade – Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury

10th grade – The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck

11th grade – The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini

Fahrenheit 451: Guy Montag is a fireman. In his world, where television rules and literature is on the brink of extinction, firemen start fires rather than put them out. His job is to destroy the most illegal of commodities, the printed book, along with the houses in which they are hidden. Montag never questions the destruction and ruin his actions produce, returning each day to his bland life and wife, Mildred, who spends all day with her television 'family'. But then he meets an eccentric young neighbor, Clarisse, who introduces him to a past where people did not live in fear and to a present where one sees the world through the ideas in books instead of the mindless chatter of television. When Mildred attempts suicide and Clarisse suddenly disappears, Montag begins to question everything he has ever known.

The Grapes of Wrath: The Pulitzer Prize-winning epic of the Great Depression, a book that galvanized—and sometimes outraged—millions of readers. First published in 1939, Steinbeck's Pulitzer Prize-winning epic of the Great Depression chronicles the Dust Bowl migration of the 1930s and tells the story of one Oklahoma farm family, the Joads—driven from their homestead and forced to travel west to the promised land of California. Out of their trials and their repeated collisions against the hard realities of an America divided into Haves and Have-Nots evolves a drama that is intensely human yet majestic in its scale and moral vision, elemental yet plainspoken, tragic but ultimately stirring in its human dignity. A portrait of the conflict between the powerful and the powerless, of one man's fierce reaction to injustice, and of one woman's stoical strength, the novel captures the horrors of the Great Depression and probes into the very nature of equality and justice in America. At once a naturalistic epic, captivity narrative, road novel, and transcendental gospel, Steinbeck's powerful landmark novel is perhaps the most American of American Classics.

The Kite Runner: This story follows the maturation of Amir, a male from Afghanistan who needs to find his way in the world as he realizes that his own belief system is not that of his dominant culture. Set in Afghanistan and the United States, *The Kite Runner* is a *bildungsroman* that illustrates the similarities as well as the differences between the two countries and the two vastly different cultures. It is the story of both fathers and sons and friends and brothers, and it is a novel about right and wrong and the nature of evil. Published in 2003 to great critical and popular acclaim, *The Kite Runner* is considered a contemporary classic.