Purpose: The Summer Reading Program encourages students to enjoy, think about, and evaluate what they read.

Reading/Writing Requirements: Summer reading is worth up to 10% of your first-quarter grade. Read the book closely and be prepared to respond to a long composition prompt during the first full week of school in September. There is an optional journal assignment.

• CP 1 and CP 2 students choose one book from the list below.
• Honors students choose two books from the list below. AP students will read Frankenstein by Mary Shelley and Never Let Me Go by Kazuo Ishiguro and complete an assignment.

EXTRA CREDIT: You may earn extra credit by reading a second book from this list and keeping a journal using the summer reading journal prompts (see your teacher or the FHS website).

Austen, Jane: Emma (adapted to the movie, “Clueless”)
Emma Woodhouse is spoiled, headstrong, and self-satisfied; she greatly overestimates her own matchmaking abilities; she is blind to the dangers of meddling in other people's lives; and her imagination and perceptions often lead her astray.

Atkinson, Kate: Life After Life
On a cold and snowy night in 1910, Ursula Todd is born, the third child of a wealthy English banker and his wife. She dies before she can draw her first breath. On that same cold and snowy night, Ursula Todd is born, lets out a lusty wail, and embarks upon a life that will be, to say the least, unusual. For as she grows, she also dies, repeatedly, in any number of ways. Ursula's world is in turmoil, facing the unspeakable evil of the two greatest wars in history.

Bronte, Charlotte: Jane Eyre
In early nineteenth-century England, an orphaned young woman is hired as a governess at Thornfield Hall, a country estate owned by the mysterious Mr. Rochester, who hides a secret that could destroy her happiness.

Brooks, Geraldine: Nine Parts of Desire: The Hidden World of Islamic Women
Having spent six years covering the Middle East for the Wall Street Journal, Brooks presents an exploration of the daily life of Muslim women and the often contradictory forces that shape their lives.

Diaz, Junot: The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao
“Ghetto nerd,” outcast, and anime-loving Oscar Wao is the latest in a long line of doomed generations to suffer the dreaded fuku curse of his native Dominican Republic. With humor and talent as his weapons, he perseveres, knowing “you can never run away. Not ever. The only way out is in.”

Diffenbaugh, Vanessa: The Language of Flowers
After a childhood spent in the foster-care system, Victoria is unable to get close to anybody, and her connection to the world is through flowers and their meaning. Now 18, she realizes she has a gift for helping others.

Ferraris, Zoe: Finding Nouf
Sixteen-year-old Nouf ash-Shrawi, daughter of a wealthy Saudi Arabian family, mysteriously disappears and is eventually found drowned in the desert. Was she kidnapped, or did she run away – and if the latter, why?

Horn, Dara: A Guide for the Perplexed
Software prodigy Josie Ashkenazi has invented an application that records everything its users do. When an Egyptian library invites her to visit as a consultant, her jealous sister Judith persuades her to go. But in Egypt’s post-revolutionary chaos, Josie is abducted—leaving Judith free to take over Josie’s life at home, including her husband and daughter.

Irving, John: A Prayer for Owen Meany
Owen Meany is a dwarfish boy with an unusual voice who accidentally kills his best friend’s mother with a baseball. Owen believes that he is an instrument of God.

Johnson, Alaya: The Summer Prince
June Costa creates art that’s sure to make her legendary. But her dreams of fame become something more when she meets Enki, the bold new Summer King. The whole city falls in love with him (including
June’s best friend Gil). But June sees more to Enki than amber eyes and a lethal samba. She sees a fellow artist.

Krakauer, Jon: *Under the Banner of Heaven*

In this bone-chilling narrative of messianic delusion and polygamy, Ron and Dan Lafferty insist they received a commandment from God to kill a blameless woman and her baby girl. Nonfiction.

LeGuin, Ursula: *The Dispossessed*

A bleak moon settled by utopian anarchists, Anarres has long been isolated from other worlds, including its mother planet, Urras—a civilization of warring nations, great poverty, and immense wealth. Now Shevek, a brilliant physicist, is determined to reunite the two planets, which have been divided by centuries of distrust. He will seek answers, question the unquestionable, and attempt to tear down the walls of hatred that have kept them apart.

Moore, Kate: *The Radium Girls*

In 1917, the Radium Luminous Materials Corporation willingly employed young women, paid far better than most businesses, and had many enticing perks—including the glow. But the women would soon suffer horrific pain and grotesquely shattered bones and teeth, and the company, it would be discovered, had known better. This timely work of nonfiction celebrates the strength of a group of women whose determination to fight improved both labor laws and scientific knowledge of radium poisoning.

Noah, Trevor: *Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood*

Comedian Trevor Noah of *The Daily Show* reveals the full brunt of the terror and diabolical absurdity he endured...as a mixed race child under the tyranny of apartheid. Incisive, funny, and vivid, these true tales are anchored to his portrait of his courageous, rebellious, and religious mother.

Orringer, Julie: *The Invisible Bridge*

Paris, 1937. Andras Lévi, a Hungarian-Jewish architecture student, arrives from Budapest with a scholarship, a single suitcase, and a mysterious letter he promised to deliver. But when he falls into a complicated relationship with the letter's recipient, he becomes privy to a secret that will alter the course of his—and his family’s—history.

Oyeyemi, Helen: *Boy, Snow, Bird*

In this contemporary retelling of *Snow White*, Boy Novak arrives in a small town in Massachusetts and marries a local widower with a daughter, Snow Whitman. Boy never intended to become a wicked stepmother.

Ozeki, Ruth: *A Tale for the Time Being*.

Full of Ozeki’s signature humor and deeply engaged with the relationship between writer and reader, past and present, fact and fiction, quantum physics, history, and myth, *A Tale for the Time Being* is a brilliantly inventive, beguiling story of our shared humanity and the search for home.

Picoult, Jodi: *Small Great Things*

Ruth Jefferson, a widow with a teenage son, is a labor and delivery nurse and the only African American in her department. When the infant son of two white supremacists dies suddenly, Ruth is blamed for the child’s death. A thought-provoking novel that examines racism in America today, both overt and subtle.

Tolstoy, Leo: *Anna Karenina*

In what some critics say is the greatest novel ever written, Tolstoy tells the story of an aristocratic woman who brings ruin on herself.

Umigar, Thrity. *The Story Hour*

An experienced psychologist, Maggie carefully maintains emotional distance from her patients. But when she agrees to treat a young Indian woman who tried to kill herself, her professional detachment disintegrates. Cut off from her family in India, and trapped in a loveless marriage to a domineering man who limits her world to their small restaurant and grocery store, Lakshmi is desperately lonely.

Yang, Gene Luen: *Boxers* (Graphic Novel)

Yang masterfully draws us into the most difficult issues of self-identity and communal understanding, with characters who struggle to act out of their deepest cultural and spiritual selves. But when they find that their commitments lead them in terrible, frightening directions—one toward massacres, another toward martyrdom—they must ask questions for which there are no easy answers.