

Introduction to Honors Senior Rhetoric

Welcome! The major goal of this course is to expose you to the wide variety of writing assignments that you will encounter in college and beyond. As a result, a heavy emphasis will be placed on research and synthesis. While these skills are not new to you, there is still much to be learned about generating research questions, conducting an exhaustive review of relevant literature, and creating a claim/conclusion based on sound reasoning techniques.

To build these skills, you will complete an extended research task that will serve as the benchmark experience for this course. In brief, you will choose a topic/focus early in the course, and then you will spend the rest of the semester researching your topic, consulting texts from various genres. Once all of your information is compiled, including personal experience and primary sources, you will produce a final product that synthesizes your research and presents an arguable claim generated from your findings.

To be successful with this project, it is crucial to find an “inspiration text” that introduces you to the topic and helps you to generate research questions that will guide your review of sources. To get you started, your summer reading project will ask you to select your topic and your inspiration text. We want you to take the time to truly read and savor your selected text.

Guidelines

- Make sure that the text represents a topic that you are truly passionate about because you will live with this topic for the entire semester. We have attached a list of books, broken down by topic, for you to peruse if necessary. You are not limited to the books on this list. Hopefully, the list will be a guide, but you are free to select your own text. All of the books on the list are available in the NCHS LRC.
- The text that you select should be nonfiction, but please do not select a memoir.
- The majority of the text should be written in 3rd person and contain research.

Process

1. Select the text that will form the foundation of your project, making sure that it presents a topic that you are passionate about and would be willing to spend a full semester exploring.
2. Read and annotate the book, concentrating on identifying questions that the book raises that would necessitate further research and study. Since you will spend all semester exploring this topic, you need to establish a series of in depth questions that help you to cover the full breadth of the topic.
3. Come to the first day of class with your topic and initial research questions fleshed-out and ready to present to your peers. Bring your book with you.

Note: While there is no formal piece of writing attached to this assignment, it is crucial that you engage in a deep read of your selected text. It will serve as the basis of many formative assignments geared towards getting you started with your research project.

Happy Reading!

Ms. Blaskovitz: jblaskovitz@naperville203.org

Mrs. Figi: nfigi@naperville203.org

Recommended Nonfiction Titles Available in the LRC

For Honors Senior Rhetoric

Updated May, 2016

Subject Area/Title

Author

This book is about...

Animal Behavior

Elephant Company 940.54 CRO

Vicki Croke

Elephants and their doctor in Burma before and during WWII

Faithful Elephants 940.54 TSU

Yukio Tsuchiya

Elephants in Tokyo zoo put to death during WWII

88 SUT Amy Sutherland

Life and lessons at the world's premier school for exotic animal trainers

Art

Dorothea Lange and the Documentary Tradition Karin Becker Ohrn
770.92 OHR

Documentary photography and the Great Depression

Math and the Mona Lisa 759.5 ATA

Bulent Atalay

Examines the scientific and mathematic connections in the art of Leonardo da Vinci

Michelangelo and the Pope's Ceiling 759.5 KIN Ross King

The story of the four years Michelangelo spent painting the Sistine Chapel

Diego Rivera 759.972 HAM

Pete Hamill

Biography of painter Diego Rivera

Business/Marketing/Economics

\$2.00 a Day 305.569 EID

Kathryn J. Edin

Living on almost nothing in America
Stock market crash of 2008

The Big Short 330.973

Michael Lewis

The making of Coca-Cola capitalism
Disney University for its employees

Citizen Coke 338.7 ELM

Bartow J. Elmore

Disney U 658.3 LIP

Doug Lipp

The man behind Tesla and SpaceX

Elon Musk 92 MUSK VAN

Ashlee Vance

The inside story of the Facebook company

The Facebook Effect 338.7 KIR

David Kirkpatrick

Wall Street expose'
Economist explains the hidden side of everything

Flash Boys 332.6 LEW

Michael Lewis

The dark side of the Beanie Baby Craze

Freakonomics 330 LEV

Steven D. Levitt

The inner-workings of Apple
Leadership lessons from largest car Manufacturer

The Great Beanie Baby Bubble 338.7688 BIS

Zac Bissonnette

Inside Apple 338.7 LAS

Adam Lashinsky

How Toyota Became #1 658.4 MAG

David Magee

Behind the scenes at Google
Biography of Steve Jobs

Planet Google 338.7 STO

Randall Stross

Steve Jobs 92 Jobs ISA

Walter Isaacson

Crime/Law/ Law Enforcement

Black Mass 364.106 LEH

Dick Lehr

Whitey Bulger vs. the FBI

Bringing Down the House 364.1 MEZ

Ben Mezrich

6 MIT students take Las Vegas for \$3 million

Burning Down the House 365.4209 BER

Nell Bernstein

Juvenile prison system

<i>A Civil Action</i> 346.73038 HAR	Jonathan Harr	Legal battle: cancer-causing pollution
<i>Columbine</i> 373.788 CUL	Dave Cullen	A profile of the 1999 Columbine Killers
<i>Ghettoside</i> 364.152 LEO	Jill Leovy	Crime in Los Angeles' ghettos
<i>The Good Nurse</i> 364.152 GRA	Charles Graeber	America's most prolific serial killer
<i>Missoula</i> 362.88 KRA	Jon Krakauer	Rape and the justice system in a college town
<i>The New Jim Crow</i> 364.973 ALE	Michelle Alexander	Mass incarceration in the age of colorblindness
<i>Newtown</i> 371.7820 LYS	Matthwe Lysiak	Newtown school shooting
<i>No Place to Hide</i> 327.12 GRE	Glenn Greenwald	Edward Snowden, the NSA, and the U.S. surveillance state
<i>Notorious RBG</i> 92 GINSBERG CAR	Irin Carmon	Biography of Ruth Bader Ginsberg
<i>Sex on the Moon</i> 364.16 MEZ	Ben Mezrich	Daring heist of NASA's moon rocks
<i>Silent Witness</i> 363.2509 MCC	Nigel McCrery	Gruesome but fascinating history of forensic science
<i>Whitey Bulger</i> 92 BULGER CUL	Kevin Cullen	America's most wanted gangster and the manhunt that brought him to justice

Cultural Studies/Regional Studies/Anthropology

<i>The Human Age: The World Shaped by Us</i> 302 ACK	Diane Ackerman	Impact of humans on nature and the planet
<i>Behind the Beautiful Forevers</i> 305.5 BOO	Katherine Boo	Families living in slums of Mumbai
<i>Guns, Germs, and Steel</i> 303.4 DIA	Jared Diamond	How human societies were shaped
<i>Born to Run</i> 796.420 McD	Christopher McDougall	A S. American Indian group who runs great distances without rest or injury
<i>The Black Calhouns</i> 973.0496 BUC	Gail Lumet Buckley	From the Civil War to civil rights, with one Lena Horne's family

Environment

<i>The Boom</i> 333.0 GOL	Russell Gold	How fracking ignited the American energy revolution and changed the world
<i>A Civil Action</i> 346.73038 HAR	Jonathan Harr	Legal battle: cancer-causing pollution
<i>Eyes Wide Open</i> 363.7 FLE	Paul Fleishchman	Summary of today's environmental challenges
<i>Garbology</i> 638.4 HUM	Edward Humes	A look at how garbage affects our
<i>An Inconvenient Truth</i> 363.73 GOR	Al Gore	The planetary emergency of global warming and what we can do about it
<i>Overheated</i> 363.78 GUZ	Andrew Guzman	The human cost of climate change
<i>Rust: The Longest War</i> 620.112 WAL	Jonathan Waldman	How rust-related damage costs more than all other natural disasters combined and how it is combated
<i>Silent Spring</i> 363.7 CAR	Rachel Carson	Environmental classic that identifies risks of pesticide use
<i>The Sixth Extinction</i> 576.8 KOL	Elizabeth Kolbert	Researchers discuss the five devastating mass extinctions on Earth; predict the coming of a sixth
<i>This Changes Everything</i> 363.738 KLE	Naomi Klein	Capitalism vs. the climate

<i>Under the Surface</i> 333.823 WIL Tom Wilbur	Fracking, fortunes and the fate of the
	Marcellus Shale
<i>Unstoppable</i> 363.738 NYE	Bill Nye
<i>Water 4.0</i> 333.91 SED David L. Sedlak	Harnessing science to change the world
world's vital resource	The past, present & future of the

Food/Nutrition

<i>Banana</i> 634.772 KOE	Dan Koeppel	The fate of the fruit that changed world
<i>Chocolate</i> 641.3378 FRY	Kay Frydenborg	The sweet science and dark secrets of the world's favorite treat
<i>The Dorito Effect</i> 641.3 SCH	Mark Schatzker	Divide between flavor and nutrition
<i>Eating Dangerously</i> 615.9 BOO	Michael Booth	Rise of food-borne illnesses
<i>Fast Food Nation</i> 394.1 SCH	Eric Schlosser	Expose on how the fast food industry has altered America
<i>The Omnivore's Dilemma</i> 394.1 POL	Michael Pollan	Traces the origin of our diets, particularly that of 4 foods

Health/Medicine

<i>Flu</i> 614.518 KOL	Gina Kolata	The Great Influenza Pandemic of 1918
<i>The Hot Zone</i> 614.57 PRE	Richard Preston	Deadly virus spreads to U.S.
<i>The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks</i> 616 SKL	Rebecca Skloot	A poor black tobacco farmer's cells became important tools in medicine

History

<i>American Sphinx</i> 973.4 ELL	Joseph Ellis	Biography of Thomas Jefferson
<i>Boardwalk Empire</i> 974.9 JOH	Nelson Johnson	The birth, high times, and corruption of Atlantic City
<i>Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee</i> 970.5 BRO	Dee Brown	Native Americans in the West
<i>Devil in the White City</i> 364.15 LAR	Erik Larson	The 1893 World's Fair & a serial killer
<i>Eyes on the Prize</i> 323.4 WIL	Juan Williams	The history of the civil rights movement
<i>The Girls of Atomic City: The Untold...</i>	Denise Kiernan	Tennessee women help build the
<i>The Guns of August</i> 940.421 TUC	Barbara Tuchman	The outbreak of WWI
<i>Hitler Youth</i> 943.086 KAT	Michael H. Kater	History of the Hitler Youth program
<i>Most Dangerous</i> 92 Ellsberg	Steve Sheinkin	Daniel Ellsberg and the secret history of the Vietnam War
<i>Pirate Hunters</i> 940.54 KUR	Robert Kurson	Search for a legendary pirate ship
<i>Stonewall</i> 306.76 BAU	Ann Bausum	The fight for gay rights
<i>Symphony for the Dead</i> 92 SHOSTAKOVICH AND	M.T. Anderson	Dmitri Shostakovich and the siege of Leningrad

Music/Entertainment/Media

<i>Bang Your Head</i> 781.66 KON	David Konow	The rise and fall of heavy metal
<i>Billy Joel</i> 92 JOEL FRE	Fred Schruers	Biography of Billy Joel
<i>Death of a Dreamer</i> 92 LENNON BEH	Alison Behnke	Biography of John Lennon
<i>Dirty South</i> 782.42 WES	Ben Westoff	Outkast, Lil Wayne, Soulja Boy, and the Southern rappers who reinvented hip-hop
<i>The Mockingbird Next Door</i> 92 LEE MIL	Marja Mills	Life with Harper Lee
<i>Petty</i> 92 PETTY ZAN	Warren Zanes	Biography of Tom Petty
<i>The Secret History of Wonder Woman of</i> 741.5973 LEP	Jill Lepore	The story behind the creation Wonder Woman

Philosophy

The Power of Myth 291.13 CAM Joseph Campbell J. Campbell's teachings on mythology

Politics

Hacker, Hoaxer, Whistleblower, Spy 364.168 COL E. Gabriella Coleman Worldwide movement of hackers, pranksters, and activists known as Anonymous

Oil and Honey 363.70092 MCK Bill McKibben Activist protestor of Keystone pipeline
Wealth, Poverty & Politics 302.12 SOW Thomas Sowell An international perspective of Wealth inequality

Psychology/Social Issues

A Deadly Wandering 153.42 RIC Matt Richtel Examines the impact of technology on our lives through the story of a college student, who killed two scientists while texting and driving
Death by Black Hole 532.8 TYS Neil DeGrasse Tyson Cosmic quandries

Drive: The Surprising Truth about what Motivates Us 153.1534 PIN Daniel H. Pink Challenges popular misconceptions about what actually motivates people

The Geeks Shall Inherit the Earth 371.820 ROB Alexandra Robbins Popularity, why outsiders thrive after High school

Lights Out 363.325 KOP Ted Koppel A cyber attack, a nation unprepared, and the aftermath

Odd Girl Out 302.54 SIM Rachel Simmons The hidden culture of aggression in girls
Physics of the Future 530 KAK Michio Kaku Science in the 21st century
The Shallows 612 CAR Nicholas Carr What the Internet is doing to our brains

The Short and Tragic Life of Robert Peace 92 PEACE HOB Jeff Hobbs Biography of a brilliant young man who left Newark for the Ivy League

The South Side 305.8 MOO Natalie Moore A portrait of Chicago and American segregation

Switch 303.4 HEA Chip Heath The psychology of change
There Are No Children Here 305.23 KOT Alex Kotlowitz The story of two boys growing up in Chicago

Thinking, Fast and Slow 153.43 KAH Daniel Kahneman Author details the two ways people think, fast & emotional vs. slow and logical

Think Like a Freak 153.43 LEV Steven D. Levitt New way to solve problems

Religion

Under the Banner of Heaven 289.33 KRA Jon Krakauer Mormon communities still practicing polygamy

Science

Deadly Feasts 616.8 RHO Richard Rhodes Mad-cow and other diseases
Gulp: Adventures on the Alimentary Canal 612.3 ROA Mary Roach A tour of the human digestive system

How to Build a Universe 520 GIL Ben Gilliland Author unravels the complex concepts of scientific cosmology

<i>Most Wanted Particle</i> 539.7095 BUT	Jon Butterworth	Inside story of the hunt for the Higgs boson
<i>The Right Stuff</i> 629.4 WOL	Tom Wolfe	Man's trip to the moon
<i>Rise of the Rocket Girls</i> 629.40 HOL	Nathalia Holt	Women who worked in the space program
<i>The Sixth Extinction</i> 576.8 KOL	Elizabeth Kolbert	Prediction of the next mass extinction
<i>Spare Parts</i> 338.7 DAV	Joshua Davis	Scrappy high school robotics team competes against elite universities.
<i>Stiff</i> 611 ROA	Mary Roach	The many uses of cadavers
<i>What If?</i> 500 MUN	Randall Munroe	Serious scientific answers to absurd hypothetical questions

Sports

<i>The Art of a Beautiful Game</i> 796.323 BAL	Chris Ballard	Explores the training, mental and physical demands, skill and other aspects of professional basketball
<i>The Big Fix</i> 796.334 FOR	Brett Forrest	Soccer corruption
<i>The Blind Side</i> 92 OHER LEW	Michael Lewis	The story of Michael Oher, taken in by a wealthy family, and the changing role of the left tackle position in football
<i>Born to Run</i> 796.420 McD	Christopher McDougall	A S. American Indian group who runs great distances without rest or injury
<i>Boys Among Men</i> 796.323 ABR	Jonathan Abrams	How the prep-to-pro generation redefined the NBA and sparked a basketball revolution
<i>Boys in the Boat</i> 797.12 BRO	Daniel Brown	The story of 9 rowers in the 1936 Olympics
<i>Chasing Perfection</i> 796.323 GLO	Andy Glockner	The high-stakes game of creating an NBA champion
<i>Dream Team</i> 796.323 McC	Jack McCallum	Michael, Magic, Larry and Charles and their Olympic basketball team
<i>Eight Men Out</i> 796.357 ASI	Eliot Asinof	The Black Sox and the 1919 World Series
<i>Hoop Dreams</i> 796.323 JOR	Ben Joravsky	Follows two Chicago high school basketball players
<i>Moneyball</i> 796.357 LEW	Michael Lewis	Billie Beane's 2002 Oakland A's
<i>Muck City</i> 796.332 MEA	Bryan Mealer	Winning and losing in football's forgotten town
<i>Natural Born Heroes</i> 796.40 McD	Christopher McDougall	Secrets of Mediterranean athletes
<i>Scorecasting</i> 796 MOS	Tobias J. Moskowitz	The hidden influences behind how sports are played and won
<i>The System</i> 796.332 BEN	Jeff Benedict	Glory and scandal of big-time college football
<i>Wheelmen</i> 92 ARMSTRONG ALB	Reed Albergotti	Lance Armstrong and the doping scandal
<i>When the Game Stands Tall</i> 795.332 HAY	Neil Hayes	De la Salle football team with longest winning streak

Technology/Engineering

<i>Frankenstein's Cat</i> 664 ANT	Emily Anthes	Biotech's brave new beasts
<i>The Innovators</i> 920 ISA	Walter Isaacson	How a group of hackers, geniuses and geeks created the digital revolution
<i>Stuxnet: Countdown to Zero Day</i> 364.1 ZET	Kim Zetter	How virus was used to destroy Iran's nuclear centrifuges
<u>War/Military</u>		
<i>Black Hawk Down</i> 967.7305 BOW	Mark Bowden	99 soldiers trapped behind enemy lines in Somalia in the Gulf War
<i>The Finish</i> 958.1047 BOW	Mark Bowden	The hunt and defeat of Osama bin Laden
<i>Flags of our Fathers</i> 940.54 BRA	James Bradley	The stories of the young men in the famous Iwo Jima sculpture
<i>Ghost Soldiers</i> 940.54 SID	Hampton Sides	WWII rescue mission in the Philippines
<i>In the Garden of the Beasts</i> 943.086 LAR	Erik Larson	American ambassador in 1930's Berlin
<i>The Rape of Nanking</i> 951.04 CHA	Iris Chang	WWII Japan
<i>Shadow Divers</i> 940.54 KUR	Robert Kurson	Adventure of divers recovering a WWII German U-boat
<i>Soldier Girls</i> 956.7044 THO	Helen Thorpe	The battles of three women at home and at war
<i>Unbroken</i> 940.54 HIL	Laura Hillenbrand	Olympic athlete survives plane crash and Japanese POW camp
<i>We Wish to Inform You...</i> 364.15 GOU	Philip Gourevitch	Stories about Rwanda's genocide
<i>The Zookeeper's Wife</i> 940.53 ACK	Diane Ackerman	Christian zookeepers harbor 300 Jewish Refugees in a Warsaw zoo
<u>World Issues</u>		
<i>ISIS Apocalypse</i> 363.325 MCC	William Faizi McCants	History of the Islamic state
<i>ISIS: The State of Terror</i> 363.325 STE	Jessica Stern	Genesis and evolution of the Islamic State
<i>The Underground Girls of Kabul</i> 305.3 NOR	Jenny Nordberg	What it means to grow up a girl in Afghanistan
<i>Wave of Destruction</i> 959.304 KRA	Erich Krauss	Four families and the Thailand tsunami