

Dear Freshman and Parents,

We have an exciting year planned for you come this fall. This year you will be studying Ancient Greek and Roman Literature. The curriculum committee has chosen an ambitious reading list that includes many of the greatest epics, poems, and plays our Western literary tradition has to offer. I am confident that this introduction to the classics will deepen your appreciation of literature and will help you to become better writers.

Summer Reading

To get a jump on the year, the curriculum committee has assigned the tragedy *Oedipus the King* by Sophocles, and sections from Edith Hamilton's book *Mythology*. You will also be using these works during the school year, so please make sure you have the correct editions listed below. Students are to read all of *Oedipus the King* and the following sections from *Mythology*:

- From Part One: (1) The Gods (2) The Two Great Gods of Earth (3) How the World and Mankind Were Created
- From Part Two (5) Cupid and Psyche (7) The Quest of the Golden Fleece
- All of Part Three: The Great Heroes Before the Trojan War
- All of Part Four: The Heroes of the Trojan War

Students should be prepared to discuss these works during the first couple weeks of the school year. There is no written assignment over the summer, so just read and enjoy!

Books to Purchase

Next year you will be reading several photocopied selections from larger works. The school has compiled an Ancient Lit Reader that students will purchase for \$10 the first week of school. All other works of literature must be purchased by each individual student by the beginning of the school year. Many of these books are available at major book stores, but I suggest ordering them all online because it is usually cheaper. They can all be found at <http://www.amazon.com>. The prices I have listed here are for brand-new books, but most of them can be found used for cheaper on the Amazon website. Used books can take longer to ship to your house, so don't wait until a week before school starts to order!

Students are required to use the particular edition listed below. This is especially important because you are reading translations of works originally written in Greek or Latin, and everyone needs to be using the same translation.

Students may not use abridged editions of any of these books.

<i>Mythology</i> by Hamilton (8.3 X 5.3 inches)	ISBN 0316341517	\$10.00
(6.6 X 4.2 inches)	ISBN 0446607258	\$6.00

There are two sizes of this book, each with a slightly different cover. The smaller one has the subtitle *Timeless Tales of Gods and Heroes*. The text of these two sizes is exactly the same and either is ok for the class.

*Sophocles I: Oedipus the King,
Oedipus at Colonus and Antigone*
By Sophocles and translated by Grene

The University of Chicago Press
ISBN 0226307921 \$11.00

SMA owns some used copies of Sophocles. They will be sold on a first-come, first-serve basis for \$5.00 each at the school office. The office summer hours are 9 AM to 1 PM Monday through Thursday for the months of June and August. The office is closed for July and on Fridays.

The Iliad by Homer
Translated by Fitzgerald

Farrar, Straus and Giroux Pub
ISBN 0374529051 \$11.50

The Odyssey by Homer
Translated by Lattimore
9780226469409

Harper Perennial Modern Classics
ISBN 9780226469409 \$10.00

(An older edition is fine; just make sure your copy is translated by Richmond Lattimore.)

The Oresteia Trilogy by Aeschylus
Translated by Fagels

Penguin Classics Edition
ISBN 0140443339 \$9.00

Julius Caesar by Shakespeare

Folger Shakespeare Library Edition
ISBN 9781439196717 \$10.00

(An older edition is fine; just make sure you buy the Folger Library Edition.)

The Aeneid by Vergil
Translated by Sarah Ruden

Yale University Press
ISBN 0300151411 \$12.00

Meditations by Marcus Aurelius

Dover Thrift Edition
ISBD 048629823X \$3.00

In addition to the works of fiction listed above, each St. Monica Academy high school student must own a copy of the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. This book must be purchased at the beginning of a student's high school career. It will be used all four years of high school, and most likely in college as well.

*MLA Handbook for Writers
Of Research Papers*, 6th Edition
by Joseph Gibaldi
(the 7th ed is also ok)

Modern Language Association of
America
ISBN 9780873529860 \$14.00

I look forward to seeing familiar faces again and to meeting all our new students in the fall. Enjoy your summer and be sure to read!

Mrs. Christine Halpin
English Dept.

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