

South Texas BETA
2017-2018 English Summer Reading List

Course	Title/Author	Synopsis
Eng. I PreAP	<i>Of Mice and Men</i> - John Steinbeck	A controversial tale of friendship and tragedy during the Great Depression. They are an unlikely pair: George is "small and quick and dark of face"; Lennie, a man of tremendous size, has the mind of a young child. Yet they have formed a "family," clinging together in the face of loneliness and alienation. "A thriller, a gripping tale . . . that you will not set down until it is finished. Steinbeck has touched the quick." — <i>The New York Times</i>
Eng. II PreAP	<i>Fahrenheit 451</i> - Ray Bradbury	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
Eng. III AP	<i>In Cold Blood</i> - Truman Capote	On November 15, 1959, in the small town of Holcomb, Kansas, four members of the Clutter family were savagely murdered by blasts from a shotgun held a few inches from their faces. There was no apparent motive for the crime, and there were almost no clues. As Truman Capote reconstructs the murder and the investigation that led to the capture, trial, and execution of the killers, he generates both mesmerizing suspense and astonishing empathy.
Eng. IV AP	<i>The Awakening</i> - Kate Chopin	Set in New Orleans and on the Louisiana Gulf coast at the end of the 19th century, the plot centers on Edna Pontellier and her struggle to reconcile her increasingly unorthodox views on femininity and motherhood with the prevailing social attitudes of the turn-of-the-century American South. It is one of the earliest American novels that focuses on women's issues without condescension.