Epsilon Sigma Omicron Reading List

2018-2020 ESO Reading List for GFWC’s Reading Groups

The following is the suggested national ESO reading list. If your state compiles its own reading list, you should first consult it. The books are divided into 23 subject categories. The list will be updated quarterly based on selected best sellers lists, American Library Association lists, Pulitzer and other prize lists, and GFWC related topics. State Education Community Service Program chairmen may adapt, alter, and/or update this list as desired.

- American History
- The Arts
- Biography and Memoir
- Business and Finance
- Conservation and Ecology
- Drama
- Education
- Fiction, Classic
- Fiction, General
- Fiction, Genre
  - Mystery, Thriller
  - Science Fiction
- Health and Medicine
- Home and Garden
- Parenting and Families
- Poetry
- Reading to Children
  - Picture Books and Story Books
  - Chapter Books and Books for Youth
- Religion and Inspirational
- Science
- Social Science
- Sports and Recreation
- Travel and Geography
- Volunteerism
- Women’s Studies
- World History
- Addendum

AMERICAN HISTORY
- Balmer, Randall. *Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory*.
- Dolan, Jay P. *The Irish Americans: The History*.
- Grann, David. *Flower Moon: the Osage murders and the birth of the FBI*.
- Gwynne, S. C. *Empire of the Summer Moon: Quanah Parker and the Rise and Fall of the Comanche, the Most Powerful Tribe in American History*.
- Hamilton Waxman, Laura. *Who Were the Accused Witches of Salem?*
- McCullough, David. *The Path between the Seas: The Creation of the Panama Canal 1870-1914*.
- O’Brien, Tim. *The Things They Carried*.
- Ricks, Thomas E. *Fiasco: The American Military Adventure in Iraq*.
- Symonds, Craig L. *The Battle of Midway*.

**THE ARTS**

- Atkins, Robert. *Artspeak*.
- Bergstein, Rachelle. *Women from the Ankle Down: The Story of Shoes and How They Define Us*.
- Bynum, Helen and William. *Botanical Sketchbook*.
Cameron, Julia. *The Artist’s Way*.
Chadwick, Whitney. *Women, Art and Society*
Cohen, Ari Seth, Maira Kalman, and Dita Von Teese. *Advanced Style*
Fletcher, Alan. *The Art of Looking Sideways*
Ganz, Nicholas. *Graffiti World: Street Art from Five Continents*.
Harr, Jonathan. *The Lost Painting*.
Iaacson, Waller. *Leonardo DaVinci*.
Naifeh, Steven and Gregory White Smith. *Van Gogh: The Life*.
Reynolds, Nancy and Malcolm McCormick. *No Fixed Points: Dance in the Twentieth Century*.
Quinn, Bridget. *Broad strokes: 15 women who made art and made history (in that order)*.
Swarkowski, John, et. al. *Ansel Adams at 100*.
Tobin, Jacqueline L. and Raymond G. Dobard. *In Plain View: A Secret Story of Quilts and the Underground Railroad*.
Wynne, Frank. *I was Vermeer: The Rise and Fall of the Twentieth Century’s Greatest Forger*.

**BIOGRAPHY AND MEMOIR**

Burroughs, Augusten. *Running with Scissors*.
Cody, Joshua. [sic]: *A Memoir*.
Ephron, Nora. *I Feel Bad About My Neck and Other Thoughts About Being a Woman*.
Fey, Tina. *Bossypants*.
Freeman, Sally Mott. *The Jersey Brothers*
- Grant, Ron. *Chernov.*
- McCourt, Frank. *Teacher Man.*
- McCullough, David. *John Adams.*
- McCullough, David. *Truman.*
- McCullough David. *The Wright Brothers.*
- Powers, Ron. *Mark Twain: A Life.*
- Thomas, Abigail. *A Three Dog Life.*
- Wagner, Erica. *Chief Engineer: Washington Robling, the man who built the Brooklyn Bridge.*
- Wells, Jeannette. *Glass Castle.*

**BUSINESS AND FINANCE**

- Friedan, Jeffrey A. and David A. Lake. *The International Political Economy: Perspectives on Global Power and Wealth.*
- Friedman, Thomas. *The World is Flat.*
- Kahneman, Daniel. *Thinking, Fast and Slow*.
- Krugman, Paul. *The Return to Depression Economics*.
- Levitt, Steven D and Stephen Dubner. *Freakonomics*.
- Malkiel, Burton. *A Random Walk Down Wall Street*.
- Morris, Charles R. *Trillion Dollar Meltdown*.
- Presser, Harriet B. *Working in a 24/7 Economy: Challenges for American Families*.
- Ramsey, Dave. *Total Money Makeover*.
- Stone, Brad. *The Upstarts: how Uber, Airb and the kioller companies of the new Silicon Valley are changing the world*.
- Williams, Joan C. *White Working Class*.

**CONSERVATION AND ECOLOGY**

- Adams, Douglas. *Last Chance to See*...
- Carson, Rachel. *Silent Spring*.
- Conca, Ken and Geoffrey Dabelko. *Green Planet Blues: Environmental Politics from Stockholm to Johannesburg*.
- Conon, William. *Uncommon Ground: Rethinking the Human Place in Nature*.
- Diamond, Jared. *Collapse*.
- Dillard, Annie. *Pilgrim at Thinkers Creek*.
- Leopold, Aldo. *A Sand County Almanac*.
- Oliver, Mary. *New and Selected Poems*.
- Reisner, Marc. *Cadillac Desert*.
- Thoreau, Henry David. *Walden or Life in the Woods*.

**DRAMA**

- Ibsen, Henrik. *A Doll's House*.
- Marlowe, Christopher. *The Tragical History of Doctor Faustus*.
- Pinter, Harold. *The Homecoming*.
- Shakespeare, William. *Othello*.
- Shaw, Bernard. *Pygmalion*.
- Wilde, Oscar. *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

**EDUCATION**

- Boser, Ulrich -- *Learn better: mustering the skills for success, or, how to become an expert in just about anything*
- Clark, Ron. *The Excellent 11: Qualities Teachers and Parents Use to Motivate, Inspire, and Educate Children*.
- Gurian, Michael and Kathryn Stevens. *The Mind of Boys*.
- Gurian, Michael. *Boys and Girls Learn Differently*.
- Johnson, Lou Anne. *Teaching Outside the Box*.
- Kludge, P.F. *Alma Mater*.
- Tock, Thomas. *High School on a Human Scale*.

**FICTION, CLASSIC**
- Alighieri, Dante. *The Inferno*
- Alighieri, Dante. *Purgatorio.*
- Bronte, Charlotte. *Jane Eyre.*
- Camus, Albert. *The Stranger.*
- Conrad, Joseph. *Heart of Darkness*
- Cooper, James Fenimore. *The Last of the Mohicans.*
- Dickens, Charles. *Great Expectations.*
- Ellison, Ralph. *Invisible Man.*
- Heller, Joseph. *Catch-22*
- Homer. *The Odyssey.*
- Kerouac, Jack. *On the Road.*
- Kesey, Ken. *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest.*
- Plato. *The Republic.*
- Salinger, J.D. *The Catcher in the Rye.*
- Vonnegut, Kurt. *Slaughterhouse Five.*

**FICTION, GENERAL**

- Atwood, Margaret. *Edible Woman.*
- Backman, Fredrick. *Beartown.*
- Banville, John. *Sea.*
- Chevalier, Tracy. *Girl with the Pearl Earring.*
- Chiaverini, Jennifer. *Mrs. Lincoln’s Dressmaker.*
- Delillo, Don. *Underworld.*
- Doctorow, E.L. *The March.*
- Doerr, Anthony. *All the Light We Cannot See*
- Egan, Jennifer. *Manhattan Beach*
- Gabaldon, Diana. *The Outlander.*
- Garey, Juliann. *Too Bright to Hear, Too Loud to See.*
- *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry.*
- Jude, Morgan. *Passion.*
- Martel, Yann. *Life of Pi.*
- McEwan, Ian. *Saturday.*
- O'Nan, Stewart. *The Good Wife.*
- Roth, Phillip. *The Plot Against America.*
- Shalvis, Jill. *Simply Irresistible.*
- Shute, Neville. *On the Beach.*
- Stedman, M.I. *The light Between the Oceans.*
- Trooper, Jonathan. *One Last Thing Before I Go.*
- Ward, Jesmyn. *Salvage the Bones.*

**FICTION, GENRE**

- **Mystery Thriller**
  - Barre, Richard. *The Innocents.*
  - Bell, Ted. *Spy.*
o Brockman, Suzanne. *Into the Storm*.

o Brown, Sandra. *Ricochet*.

o Christie, Agatha. *And Then There Were None*.

o Connelly, Michael. *The Lincoln Lawyer*.

o Cook, Robin. *Crisis*.


o Ellroy, James. *The Black Dahlia*.

o Grisham, John. *The Broker*.

o Hannon, Irene. *In Harm’s Way*.

o Harwin, Patricia. *Arson and Old Lace: A Far Wychwood Mystery*.

o Kellerman, Faye. *Stone Kiss*.

o Patterson, James. *Cross*.

o Patterson, James and Andrew Gross. *Judge and Jury*.

o Roberts, Nora. *Angels Fall*.

o Rose, Karen. *Silent Scream*.


o Smith, Alexander McCall. *The Full Cupboard of Life: More from the No. 1 Ladie’s Detective Agency*.

o Thomas, Sherry. *His at Night*.

**Science Fiction**


o Ashwood, Sharon. *Unchained*.

o Asimov, Isaac. *I, Robot*.

o Atwood, Margaret. *The Handmaid’s Tale*.

o Bradbury, Ray. *Fahrenheit 451*.

o Brooks, Max. *World War Z*.

o Brooks, Terry. *Armageddon’s Children*.

o Card, Orson Scott. *Ender’s Game*.

o Clarke, Arthur C. *Rendezvous with Rama*.

o Collins, Suzanne. *The Hunger Games*.

o Crichton, Michael. *Jurassic Park*.

o Dick, Philip K. *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?*

o Gaiman, Neil. *Anansi Boys*.

o Gibson, William. *Neuromancer*.

o Hearn, Lian. *Across the Nightingale Floor*.

o Herbert, Frank. *Dune*. 
Le Guin, Ursula K. *The Left Hand of Darkness*.
Lethem, Jonathan. *Gun, with Occasional Music*.
Lewis, C.S. *Space Trilogy*.
McCarthy, Cormac. *The Road*.
Mieville, China. *Perdido Street Station*.
Morgan, Richard K. *Altered Carbon*.
Niffenegger, Audrey. *The Time Traveler's Wife*.
Powers, Tim. *Anubis Gates*.
Pullman, Phillip. *His Dark Materials* trilogy.
Stephenson, Neal. *Cryptonomicon*.
Tolkien, J.R.R. *Lord of the Rings*.
White, T.H. *The Once Future King*.

**HEALTH AND MEDICINE**

- Amen, Daniel G. *Change Your Brain, Change Your Life*.
- Crowley, Chris, Gail Sheehy, and Henry S. Lodge. *Younger Next Year for Women*.
- Gladwell, Malcolm. *Blink: The Power of Thinking without Thinking*.
- Nielsen, Jerri. *A Doctor’s Incredible Battle for Survival at the South Pole*.
- Northup, Christine. *Women’s Bodies, Women’s Wisdom*.
- Perlmutter, Dr. David and Carol Colman. *The Better Brain Book*.
- Pollan, Michael. *The Omnivore’s Dilemma*.
- Roizen, Michael and Melmet Oz. *You: The Smart Patient*.
- Schlosser, Eric. *Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of the All-American Meal*.
- Zerbe, Kathryn J. *The Body Betrayed: A Deeper Understanding of Women, Eating Disorders, and Treatment*.

**HOME AND GARDEN**
- Angelou, Maya. *Hallelujah! The Welcome Table: A Lifetime of Memories and Recipes.*
- Burch, Mary. *Volunteering with Your Pet.*
- Craven, Jackie. *The Healthy Home.*
- Dragonwagon Crescent. *Passionate Vegetarian.*
- Garten, Ina. *Barefoot Contessa at Home: Everyday Recipes You’ll Make Over and Over Again.*
- Goodall, Jane, Gail Hudson, and Gary McAvoy. *Harvest for Hope.*
- Powell, Julie. *Julie and Julia: 365 Days, 524 Recipes, 1 Tiny Apartment Kitchen.*
  - Rybczynski, Witold. *Home: A Shot History of an Seal, Moorea -- Make Yourself at Home*
- Smith, Edward C. and John Storey. *The Vegetable Gardener's Bible.*
- Witherspoon, Kimberly and Andrew Friedman. *Don’t Try This at Home: Culinary Catastrophes from the World’s Greatest Chefs.*

**PARENTING AND FAMILIES**

- Buchman, Dana. *A Special Education: One Family’s Journey Through the Maze of Learning Disabilities.*
- Cline, Forster and Jim Fay. *Parenting with Love and Logic.*
- Druckerman, Pamela. *Bringing Up Bebe: One American Mother Discovers the Wisdom of French Parenting.*
- Gottman, John, Joan DeClaire, and Daniel Goleman. *Raising an Emotional Intelligent Child.*
- Lawlis, Frank. *The ADD Answer.*
- Mace, Nancy L. and Peter Rabins. *The 36-Hour Day: Caring for Persons with Alzheimer, Relating Dementia Illness...*
- Murkoff, Heidi. *What to Expect When You’re Expecting.*
- Pelzer, David. *A Child Called It.*
- Siegel, Daniel J.M.D. and Mary Hartzell, M.D. *Parenting from the Inside Out.*
- Thayer, Elizabeth, Ph.D. and Jeffrey Zimmerman, Ph.D. *The Co-Parenting Survival Guide: Letting Go of Conflict After a Difficult Divorce.*
- Wiseman, Roseland. *Queen Bees and Wannabes.*

**POETRY**
- Angelou, Maya. *Mother, A Cradle to Hold Me.*
- Cullen, Countee. *My Soul's High Song.*
- Cummings, E.E. *100 Selected Poems.*
- Dove, Rita. *Mother Love.*
- Eliot, T.S. *The Wasteland and Other Poems.*
- Emerson, Claudia. *Late Wife.*
- Finney, Nikky. *Head Off and Split.*
- Ginsberg, Allen. *Howl and Other Poems.*
- Merwin, W.S. *Migration: New and Selected Poems.*
- Neruda, Pablo. *Twenty Love Poems and a Song of Despair.*
- Sidman, Joyce. *Song of the Water Boatman and Other Pond Poems.*
- Smith, Tracy K. *Life on Mars.*
- Whitman, Walt. *Leaves of Grass.*
- Williams, William Carlos. *Pictures from Brueghel and Other Poems.*

**READING TO CHILDREN**
- **Picture Books and Story Books:** Many clubwomen are involved in volunteer programs reading to children, and many more read to their own children/grandchildren. If you are using this category for ESO credit, please include to whom you are reading and if they enjoyed the book. The following titles are current bestsellers and literary award winners, but you may read and report on any children’s book.
  - Couric, Katie. *The Brand New Kid.*
  - Duskey Rinker, Sherri and Tom Lichtenheld. *Goodnight, Goodnight, Construction Site.*
  - Freeman, Don. *Corduroy.*
  - Klassen, Jon. *I Want My Hat Back.*
  - Litwin, Eric. *Pete the Cat: Rocking in My School Shoes.*
  - McBratney, Sam. *Guess How Much I Love You.*
  - Muth, Jon J. *Zen Shorts.*
  - O’Conner, Jane. *Fancy Nancy.*
  - Priceman, Marjorie. *Hot Air: The (Mostly) True Story of the First Hot-Air Balloon Ride.*
  - Scieszka, Jon and Lane Smith. *The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Stupid Tales.*
  - Sendak, Maurice. *Where the Wild Things Are.*
  - Seuss, Dr. *Oh, The Places You’ll Go!*n
  - Tullet, Hervé. *Press Here.*
  - Van Allsburg, Chris. *The Polar Express.*

- **Chapter Books and Books for Youth**
  - Babbitt, Natalie. *Tuck Everlasting.*
  - Blume, Judy. *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing.*
  - Cabot, Meg. *How to be Popular.*
  - Colfer, Eoin. *Artemis Fowl.*
  - Howe, James. *Bunnicula Meets Edgar Allan Crow.*
  - Kinney, Jeff. *Diary of a Wimpy Kid.*
  - Lai, Thanhha. *Inside Out and Back Again.*
  - Riggs, Ransom. *Miss Peregrine’s Home for Peculiar Children.*
  - Riordan, Rick. *Percy Jackson & the Olympians.*
  - Rowling, J.K. *Harry Potter.*
  - Snicketts, Lemony. *A Series of Unfortunate Events.*
**RELIGION AND INSPIRATION**

- White, E.B. *Charlotte’s Web.*
- Burpo, Todd and Lynn Vincent. *Heaven is for Real: A Little Boy’s Astounding Story of His Trip to Heaven and Back.*
- Dalai Lama, (His Holiness). *Ethics for the New Millennium.*
- Didion, Joan. *The Year of Magical Thinking.*
- Hesse, Herman. *Siddharta.*
- Hoff, Benjamin. *The Tao of Pooh.*
- Kushner, Harold S. *Overcoming Disappointments.*
- Lewis, C.S. *The Screwtape Letters.*
- Lucado, Max. *The Inspirational Study Bible.*
- Peck, Scott. *The Road Less Traveled.*
- Piper, Don. *90 Minutes in Heaven.*
- Pirsig, Robert. *The Zen and Art of Motorcycle Maintenance.*
- Singer, Michael A. *The Untethered Soul: The Journey Beyond Yourself.*
- Tolle, Eckhart. *A New Earth.*

**SCIENCE**

- Cox, Lynne. *Grayson.*
- Gosnell, Mariana. *Ice.*
- Hawking, Stephen. *A Brief History of Time.*
- Kluger, Jeffrey. *Apollo 8; the thrilling story of the first mission to the moon.*
- Roach, Mary. *Bonk: The Curious Coupling of Science and Sex.*
o Tyson, Neil deGrasse. Astrophysics for people in a hurry.

SOCIAL SCIENCE
o Alexander, Michelle. The New Jim Crow.
o Blakeslee, Nate. Tulia.
o Brigham, Robert. Is Iraq Another Vietnam?
o Ehrenreich, Barbara. Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America.
o Griffin, John Howard. Black Like Me.
o Grisham, John. The Innocent Man.
o Iacooa, Lee. Where Have All the Leaders Gone?
o Northrup, Soloman. Twelve Years a Slave.
o Skloot, Rebecca. The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks.
o Taliaferro, John. In a Far Country.
o Ung, Loung. First They Killed My Father: A Daughter of Cambodia Remembers.
o West, Cornel. Race Matters.
o Wright, Lawrence. The Looming Tower.

SPORTS AND RECREATION
o Armstrong, Lance. It’s Not about the Bike: My Journey Back to Life.
o Bissinger, H.G. Friday Night Lights.
o Blais, Madeleine. In These Girls, Hope is a Muscle.
o Dyer, Danny and Katherine. ChiRunning.
o Karnazes, Dean. Ultramarathon Man: Confessions of an All-Night Runner.
o Kilmeade, Brian. The Games Do Count.
- Krakauer, Jon. *Into Thin Air*.
- Lamster, Mark. *Spalding's World Tour*.
- Marx, Jeffrey. *Season of Life: A Football Star, a Boy, a Journey to Manhood*.
- McDougall, Christopher. *Born to Run*.
- Posnanski, Joe. *Paterno*.
- Smith, Lisa et.al. *Nike is a Goddess: the History of Women in Sports*.
- Solo, Hope. *A Memoir of Hope*.

**TRAVEL AND GEOGRAPHY**

- Bissell, Tom. *Chasing the Sea*.
- Bryson, Bill. *A Walk in the Woods: Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail*.
- Dalrymple, William. *City of Djinns*.
- Gilbert, Elizabeth. *Eat, Pray, Love: One Woman’s Search for Everything Across Italy, India, and Indonesia*.
- Krakauer, John. *Into the Wild*.
- Lindqvist, Sven. “Exterminate All the Brutes.”
- Nooteboom, Cees. *Roads to Santiago*.
- Schultz, Patricia. *1,000 Places to See Before You Die: A Traveler’s Life List*.
- Severgnini Beppe. *La Bella Figura, a Field Guide to the Italian Mind*.
- Stewart, Roy. *The Places in Between*.
- Strayed, Cheryl. *Wild (From Lost to Found on the Pacific Coast Trail)*.

**VOLUNTEERISM**

- Day, Dorothy. *Loaves and Fishes*.
Canfield, Jack, Mark Victor Hansen, Arline Oberst, John Boal, and Tom Lagana. *Chicken Soup for the Volunteer’s Soul: Stories to Celebrate the Spirit of Courage, Caring and Community.*


Metzler, Barbara. *Passionaries: Turning Compassion into Action.*

Miller, Scott C. *Until It’s Gone: Ending Poverty in Our Nation, in Our Lifetime.*

Webber, Jeffrey. *Volunteering and Your Retirement Lifestyle.*

**WOMEN’S STUDIES**

Albright, Madeline. *Madame Secretary.*

Allgor, Catherine. *A Perfect Union: Dolley Madison and the Creation of the American Nation.*


De Beauvoir, Simone. *The Second Sex.*

Ensler, Eve. *The Vagina Monologues.*

Friedan, Betty. *The Feminine Mystique.*


Helm, Sarah. *A Life of Secrets: Vera Atkins and the Missing Agents of WWII.*


Mam, Somaly. *Road of Lost Innocence.*

Quindlen, Anna. *Lots of Candles, Plenty of Cake.*


Spencer, Irene. *Shattered Dreams: My Life as a Polygamist’s Wife.*
WORLD HISTORY

- Beah, Ishmael. *A Long Way Gone.*
- Bernstein, Judy. *They Poured Fire on Us from the Sky: The True Story of Three Lost Boys from Sudan.*
- Blum, Howard. *Dark Invasion: 1915 Germany’s Secret War and the Hunt for the First Terrorist Cell in America.*
- Delaney, Frank. *Ireland.*
- Diamond, Jared. *Guns, Germs, and Steel.*
- Hanson, Victor. *A War Like No Other: How the Athenians and Spartans Fought the Peloponnesian War.*
- Korda, Michael. *Journey to a Revolution.*
- Kors, Eva. *Surviving the Angel of Death.*
- Massie, Robert K. *The Romanovs: The Final Chapter.*
- Mortenson, Greg and David Oliver Relin. *Three Cups of Tea.*
- Paz, Octavio. *The Labyrinth of Solitude.*
- Remnick, David. *Lenin’s Tomb: The Last Days of the Soviet Empire.*
- Reston, James. *Warriors*