

American Faith Academy

Rhetoric (9-12) Book List Included with Tuition

Wisdom and Eloquence

The capstone of their education. Students engage with the Great Books of Western civilization—from Homer and Plato to Augustine and C.S. Lewis—reading, discussing, and writing about the ideas that have shaped history.

They study advanced rhetoric and apologetics through personalized instruction, learning to defend their faith with grace and conviction. They participate in global virtual Socratic seminars, salons, and debates with students from around the world, sharpening their thinking and communication skills. They complete a thesis—a substantial research project that culminates in a written paper and an oral defense presented virtually to a panel. They can also pursue dual enrollment to earn an associate’s degree or specialize in our trades pathway.

Great Books	Advanced writing	Purposeful prep
Deep reading, discussion, and written analysis.	Research, persuasion, and rhetorical skill.	College/career readiness and leadership formation.

Curated Reading Pathway

Title	Author	Year
The Scarlet Letter	Nathaniel Hawthorne	1850
Killing England	Bill O'Reilly & Martin Dugard	2017
The Pursuit of Happiness	Jeffrey Rosen	2024
The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass	Frederick Douglass	1845
The Jungle	Upton Sinclair	1906
The Great Gatsby	F. Scott Fitzgerald	1925
The Grapes of Wrath	John Steinbeck	1939
To Kill a Mockingbird	Harper Lee	1960
Bomb: The Race to Build—and Steal—the World’s Most Dangerous Weapon	Steve Sheinkin	2012
Thirteen Days	Robert F. Kennedy	1969
Farewell to Manzanar	Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston & James D. Houston	1973

Title	Author	Year
The Red Badge of Courage	Stephen Crane	1895
Twenty Basics Every Christian Should Know	Wayne A. Grudem & Elliot Grudem	2005
What's Your Worldview? An Interactive Approach to Life's Big Questions	James N. Anderson	2014
The Iliad	Homer, Robert Fagles (Translator)	c. 8th century BC, 1998
Republic	Plato, G.M.A. Grube & C.D.C. Reeve (Translators)	c. 375 BC, 1992
Lysistrata, Clouds, and Wasps	Aristophanes, Jeffrey Henderson (Translator)	411 / 423 / 422 BC, 1998
The Bacchae, Electra, and Trojan Women	Euripides, Philip Vellacott (Translator)	c. 415-405 BC, 1973
Euclid's Elements	Euclid, Thomas L. Heath (Translator)	c. 300 BC, 1956
Nicomachean Ethics	Aristotle, Terence Irwin (Translator)	c. 340 BC, 1999
Politics	Aristotle, Carnes Lord (Translator)	c. 350 BC, 1985
On the Nature of Things	Lucretius, Martin Ferguson Smith (Translator)	c. 55 BC, 2001
Eclogues and Georgics	Virgil, C. Day Lewis (Translator)	39 / 29 BC, 1984
Metamorphoses	Ovid, David Raeburn (Translator)	8 AD, 2004
Meditations	Marcus Aurelius, Gregory Hays (Translator)	c. 180 AD, 2003
City of God	Augustine of Hippo, Henry Bettenson (Translator)	426, 2003
The Consolation of Philosophy	Boethius, Victor Watts (Translator)	c. 524, 1999
Summa Theologica	Thomas Aquinas, Fathers of the English Dominican Province (Translators)	1265-1274, 1947
Divine Comedy	Dante Alighieri, Allen Mandelbaum (Translator)	1320, 1982
Canterbury Tales	Geoffrey Chaucer, Nevill Coghill (Translator)	c. 1387-1400, 2003
The Prince	Niccolò Machiavelli, Harvey C. Mansfield (Translator)	1532, 1998
In Praise of Folly	Desiderius Erasmus, Betty Radice (Translator)	1511, 1994
Institutes of the Christian Religion	John Calvin, Henry Beveridge (Translator)	1536, 2006
Don Quixote	Miguel de Cervantes, Edith Grossman (Translator)	1605 / 1615, 2003

Title	Author	Year
Tartuffe	Molière, Richard Wilbur (Translator)	1664, 1961
The Tempest	William Shakespeare, Barbara A. Mowat & Paul Werstine (Editors)	c. 1611, 2004
Paradise Lost	John Milton, John Leonard (Editor)	1667, 2003
Leviathan	Thomas Hobbes, Christopher Brooke (Editor)	1651, 2017
Pensées	Blaise Pascal, W.F. Trotter (Translator)	1670, 2011
The Wealth of Nations	Adam Smith, Robert B. Reich (Introduction)	1776, 2000
Moby-Dick	Herman Melville	1851
Notes from the Underground	Fyodor Dostoevsky	1864
Beyond Good and Evil	Friedrich Nietzsche	1886
The Sun Also Rises	Ernest Hemingway	1926
The Stranger	Albert Camus	1942
One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich	Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn	1962
Brave New World	Aldous Huxley	1932
Emma	Jane Austen	1815
Testigo - La Historia de Brayan	Kristy Placido	2019