



12th Grade Summer Reading Assignment

This year, all high school students will be participating in one whole-class read and one independent reading assignment of their choice. Our whole-level read will be Tara Westover's *Educated*. For their independent choice, students may select a text of any genre and style that fits a theme presented in the past year of IB learning. These themes include, but are not limited to:

1. Family
2. Tradition vs. Modernity
3. Adversity and Oppression
4. Selfishness and its Effects
5. Heroes
6. Nature

Students will compare the presentation of this theme in their reading choice with its presentation in one of our class readings in a speech they will share with the class. They may have notecards with 10 bullet points and a list of quotes/examples from their text, but may not read from a written speech.

For *Educated*, please also answer the following question in short essay form: Westover's memoir has generated controversy over the truthfulness of her story, with some claiming she exaggerated or even outright fabricated parts of it. To what extent does the accuracy of the story she tells affect its impact on you? Does it matter if parts of it are made up or exaggerated, and why or why not? If parts of it are made up, how does this affect the overall message you believe Westover is trying to convey? Defend your answer **using evidence from the text.**

All incoming 12th graders should also spend time this summer doing preliminary research for their Extended Essay. They should expect a meeting with their EE advisor in the first weeks of school where they will discuss their research question and their initial research and process, as well as develop their topics further.