

EA Prep SPURS Summer Reading Project 2017-2018

Incoming SPURS students! Congratulations! Your summer reading projects is a little different from that of your peers in that you are focusing on the RHETORIC, or the argument, that is being made in your non-fiction text. You are expected to read the book and annotate as you go along.

On the first day of class, you will be expected to walk into class with **at least 15 quotes** that you could use in a paper discussing the argument your book covers. However, remember, sometimes the arguments are nuanced and you will need to critically think about what is being discussed.

You will also be expected to write a **1 page essay on the rhetorical appeal** (ethos, pathos, logos) that you found most effective in your text.

You need to be prepared to participate in class discussions focusing on rhetorical techniques found in the book.

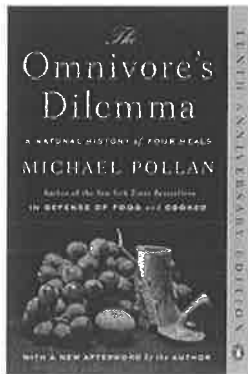
You may choose 1 of the 4 following books:

The Boy who Played with Fusion by Tom Clines



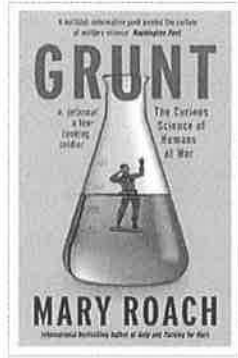
By the age of nine, Taylor Wilson had mastered the science of rocket propulsion. At eleven, his grandmother's cancer diagnosis inspired him to investigate new ways to produce medical isotopes. And by fourteen, Wilson had built a 500-million-degree reactor and become the youngest person in history to achieve nuclear fusion. How could someone so young achieve so much, and what can Wilson's story teach parents and teachers about how to support high-achieving kids?

The Omnivore's Dilemma by Michael Pollan



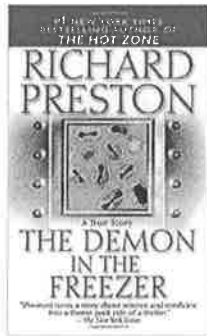
What should we have for dinner? This brilliant and eye-opening exploration of our food choices, demonstrated that how we answer it today may determine not only our health but our survival as a species. Bringing wide attention to the little-known but vitally important dimensions of food and agriculture in America, Pollan launched a national conversation about what we eat and the profound consequences that even the simplest everyday food choices have on both ourselves and the natural world. Ten years later, *The Omnivore's Dilemma* continues to transform the way Americans think about the politics, perils, and pleasures of eating.

Grunt by Mary Roach



A finalist for the Los Angeles Times Science & Technology Book Prize 'The most entertaining writer in science' - The Times, Books of the Year War. Mention it and most of us think of history, of conflicts on foreign soil, of heroism and compromise, of strategy and weapons. But there's a whole other side to the gruesome business of the battlefield. In *Grunt*, the inimitable Mary Roach explores the science of keeping human beings intact, awake, sane, uninfected and uninfested in the bizarre and extreme circumstances of war. Setting about her task with infectious enthusiasm, she sniffs World War II stink bombs, tests earplugs in a simulated war zone and burns the midnight oil with the crew of a nuclear submarine. Speaking to the scientists and the soldiers, she learns about everything from life-changing medical procedures to innovations as esoteric as firing dead chickens at fighter jets. Engrossing, insightful and laugh-out-loud funny, this is an irresistible ride to the wilder shores of modern military life.

The Demon in the Freezer by Richard Preston



The first major bioterror event in the United States—the anthrax attacks in October 2001—was a clarion call for scientists who work with “hot” agents to find ways of protecting civilian populations against biological weapons. In **The Demon in the Freezer**, his first nonfiction book since **The Hot Zone**, a #1 *New York Times* bestseller, Richard Preston takes us into the heart of Usamriid, the United States Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases at Fort Detrick, Maryland, once the headquarters of the U.S. biological weapons program and now the epicenter of national biodefense.