

Curriculum/Technology Committee

June 7, 2021



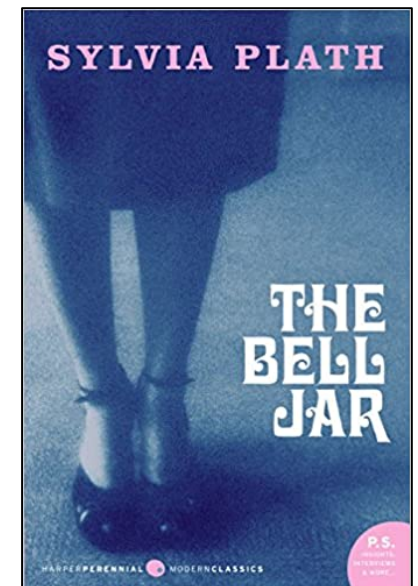
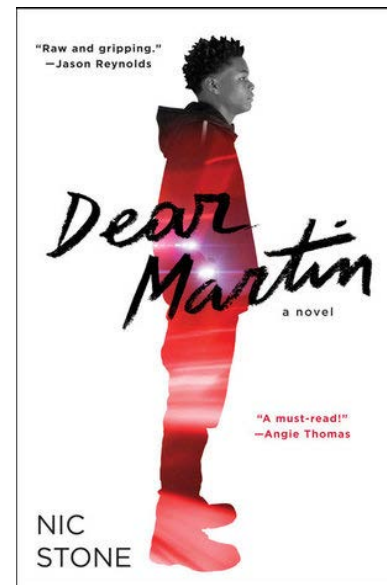
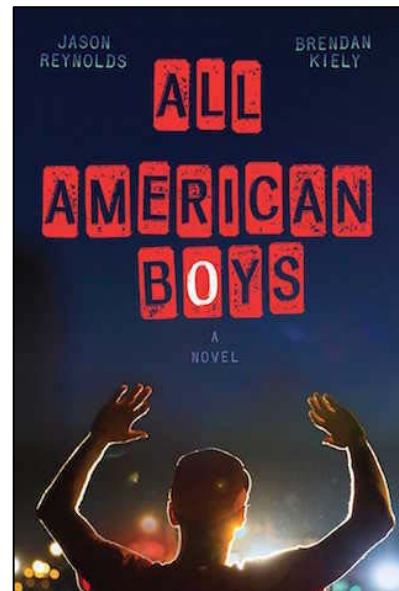
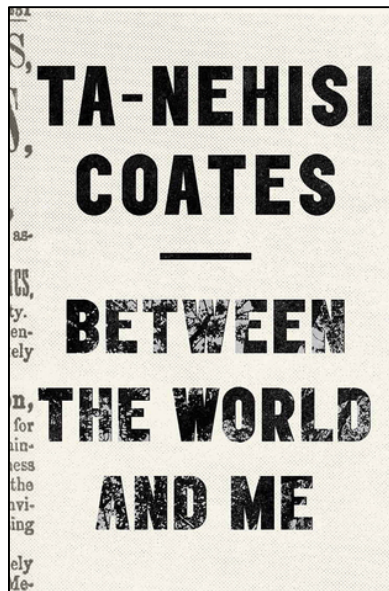
Curriculum updates

- ▶ Jen Farthing, Director of Curriculum

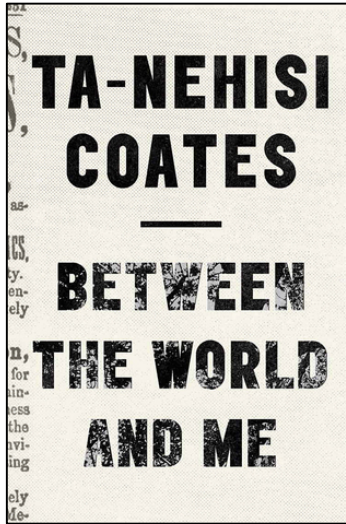


Social Justice in Literature Titles

- ▶ Megan Holzheimer, English Teacher at Twinsburg High School



Between the World and Me by Ta-Nehisi Coates (2015) Book Proposal



Overview: “In a profound work that pivots from the biggest questions about American history and ideals to the most intimate concerns of a father for his son, Ta-Nehisi Coates offers a powerful new framework for understanding our nation’s history and current crisis. Americans have built an empire on the idea of “race,” a falsehood that damages us all but falls most heavily on the bodies of black women and men—bodies exploited through slavery and segregation, and, today, threatened, locked up, and murdered out of all proportion. What is it like to inhabit a black body and find a way to live within it? And how can we all honestly reckon with this fraught history and free ourselves from its burden? *Between the World and Me* is Ta-Nehisi Coates’s attempt to answer these questions in a letter to his son.”

Source: Goodreads.org

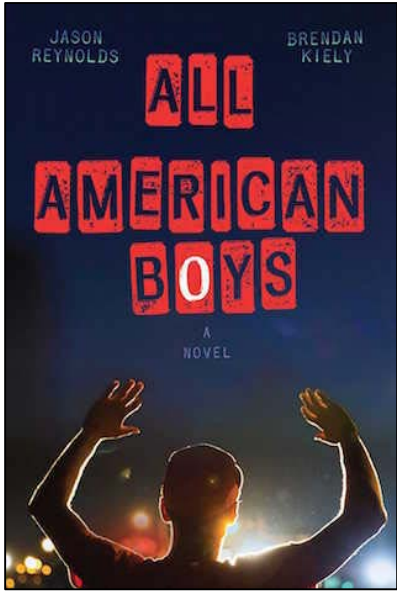
Scholastic Grade Level Recommendation:
Grades 11-12

Common Sense Media Recommendation: 13+

Merit and Unit Goals:

- Genre: Biography/memoir
- Option for 1st unit of study: African American experience
- Coates uses a personal narrative style to help explain to his son what it’s like to live in America while inhabiting a black body
- Excerpts will be used alongside unit novels to discuss real life events and experiences in comparison to how they are portrayed in novels

All American Boys by Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely (2015) Book Proposal



Overview: “Rashad and Quinn—one black, one white, both American—face the unspeakable truth that racism and prejudice didn’t die after the civil rights movement. There’s a future at stake, a future where no one else will have to be absent because of police brutality. They just have to risk everything to change the world.” Source: Goodreads.org

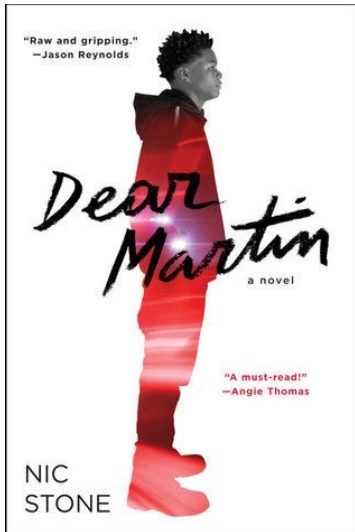
Scholastic Grade Level Recommendation:
Grades 9-12

Common Sense Media Recommendation:
Grades 12+

Merit and Unit Goals:

- Genre: Young Adult Fiction
- Option for 1st unit of study: African American experience
- Explores the topic of the police brutality epidemic that disproportionately impacts the African American population in the United States
- Also discusses topics of racism and prejudice through the perspectives of two teenagers

Dear Martin by Nic Stone (2017) Book Proposal



Overview: “Justyce McAllister is a good kid, an honor student, and always there to help a friend-but none of that matters to the police officer who just put him in handcuffs. Justyce looks to the teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. for answers. But do they hold up anymore? He starts a journal to Dr. King to find out.” Source: Goodreads.org

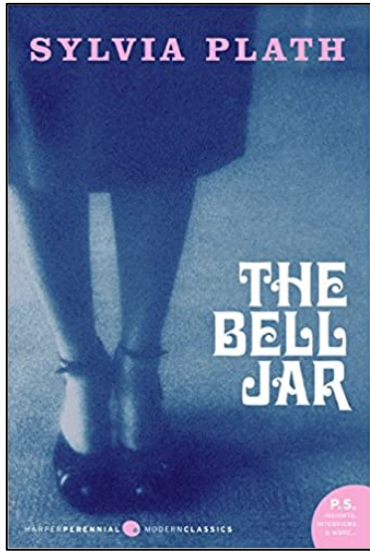
Scholastic Grade Level Recommendation:
Grades 10-12

Common Sense Media Recommendation:
Grades 14+

Merit and Unit Goals:

- Genre: Young Adult Fiction
- Option for 1st unit of study: African American experience
- Also explores the topics of police brutality, racism, and prejudice
- Also told from the perspective of a teenager
- Black, female author

The Bell Jar by Sylvia Plath (1971) Book Proposal



Overview: “The Bell Jar chronicles the crack-up of Esther Greenwood: brilliant, beautiful, enormously talented, and successful, but slowly going under—maybe for the last time. Sylvia Plath masterfully draws the reader into Esther's breakdown with such intensity that Esther's insanity becomes completely real and even rational, as probable and accessible an experience as going to the movies. Such deep penetration into the dark and harrowing corners of the psyche is an extraordinary accomplishment and has made The Bell Jar a haunting American classic.” [Source: Goodreads.org](https://www.goodreads.org)

**Scholastic Grade Level
Recommendation:**
Grades 9-12

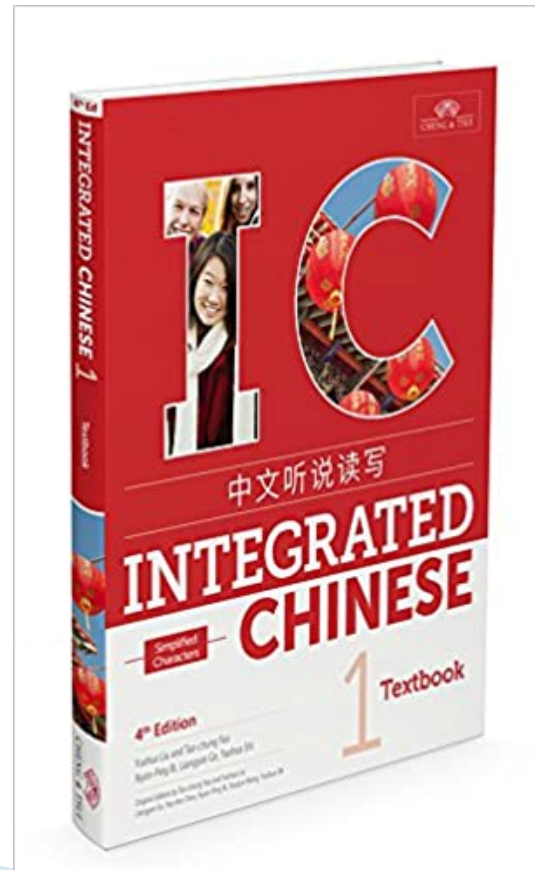
**College Board
Recommended
Reading List**

Merit and Unit Goals:

- Genre: Fiction/autobiographical fiction
- Option for 2nd unit of study: Women's experience
- Example of a female bildungsroman (coming-of-age story)
- Explores topics of subtle feminism through the expected roles of women at the time and how those expectations can have a negative impact on mental health

Chinese 1 Textbook/Workbook

- ▶ *Integrated Chinese 1* 4th Edition ISBN 9781622911356 (textbook) and 9781622911363 (workbook)





Adjourn

- Please let us know if you are interested in joining again next year!

