

**XAVIER COLLEGE PREPARATORY HIGH SCHOOL
SUMMER READING 2019**



Dear Incoming Honors Senior,

We hope that this letter finds you well and anticipating the end of a rewarding year. We hope that you will have many good experiences and make many good decisions before we see you again in August. One of those decisions we would like to help you with is the decision to remain engaged in some kind of academic activity this summer. It is our belief that encouraging students to read year-round is a key element in the development of lifelong learners. While the summer is certainly time to be away from school, we hope that it is not a time to stop reading, thinking, and growing.

You will read two books this summer (see below). These required works will be part of the overall theme of the year, Seven Deadly Sins and Seven Virtues. These books have been selected for their challenging, compelling content.

What to do over the summer: Actively read the two summer reading novels and annotate them. During the first week of school, you will have one objective test (covering both books) and one in-class essay (covering both books).

Please carefully **read and annotate** both books in preparation.

Required Books:

- ***Educated* by Tara Westover**

Born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, Tara Westover was seventeen the first time she set foot in a classroom. Her family was so isolated from mainstream society that there was no one to ensure the children received an education, and no one to intervene when one of Tara's older brothers became violent. When another brother got himself into college, Tara decided to try a new kind of life.

- ***The Tattooist of Auschwitz* by Heather Morris**

A vivid, harrowing, and ultimately hopeful re-creation of Lale Sokolov's experiences as the man who tattooed the arms of thousands of prisoners with what would become one of the most potent symbols of the Holocaust, *The Tattooist of Auschwitz* is also a testament to the endurance of love and humanity under the darkest possible conditions.

Please email Ms. Hanger at mhanger@xavierprep.org with any questions.