

Great World and Great Ancient Literature: Authors

World Literature

The course material usually focuses on European authors, so students need cultural and historical background on the country, era, and author. Poetry generally doesn't translate well.

Consider reading novels and plays written by the following recognized authors:

World Literature: Novelists & Playwrights		
Dante Alighieri	Fyodor Dostoyevsky	Anton Chekhov
Miguel de Cervantes	Victor Hugo	Alexandr Solzhenitsyn
Edmond Rostand	Leo Tolstoy	Samuel Beckett

Ancient Literature: Translations of ancient literature are the most difficult type of literature for modern students to understand, because we do not share the same customs, religions, myths, philosophies, or cultures. Consider adding [Great Courses lectures](#) to help you better understand ancient literature. Many public libraries own some of these lectures or have access to them through interlibrary loans.

Consider reading literature written by the following recognized authors:

Civilization	Authors
Greek	Homer, Sophocles, Aeschylus, Aristophanes, Euripides
Roman	Virgil
Hebrew	Book of Job (Anon), John Mark (Gospel of Mark), Luke (Gospel of Luke and Acts of the Apostles)
Mesopotamia	Epic of Gilgamesh (Anon)