



**Summer Reading 2016**  
**Upper School Humanities**  
**Mr. Sacco and Mr. Burke**  
**Humanities II**

**Unit: The Summer Sojourn**

**Task 1 - Current Event Watch**

Time: 6 to 10 hours

Skills: Reading, Writing

Disposition: Curiosity

Activity:

1. You are to read and analyze *at least 8 news articles* related to current events (one a week).
2. All of the articles should somehow connect to the [essential questions](#). Use this [template](#) to keep track of your work. [Template](#)

**Task 2 - Historical Fiction - *City of Thieves* or *The Good Earth***

Time: 15 hours

Skills: Reading, Thinking, Writing, Ideation

Disposition: Curiosity

Activities:

- 1) For either book, please write a journal entry connecting the book to the essential questions. *Responses should be substantial and should utilize quotes of passages from the books.*
  - a) What does it mean to be human?
    - i) What do our stories reveal about our society?
    - ii) Are there universal truths?
  - b) How do humans interact with the environment?
  - c) How do we interact with each other?
    - i) Is citizenship a right or privilege?
    - ii) How does community shape identity?
    - iii) What obligations do we have to our community? What obligations does our community have to us? How do individuals participate in something greater than self?
    - iv) What happens when societies come into contact with one another?
    - v) Why are some values dominant over others in a particular society?

- vi) To what extent does happiness connect to a sense of belonging?

### **Task 3 - Golden Record Project**

Time: 1 hour

Skills: Writing, Curiosity

Disposition: Curiosity and Self-Awareness

Activity:

1. Listen to the following podcast: [Looking Up](#)
2. Design and build your own Golden Record (See [Template](#))
  - a. Your golden record must include:
    - i. Picture of you
    - ii. Favorite song, movie, book
    - iii. A quote
    - iv. A symbol
3. Write a paragraph explaining why you chose what you chose and how the items best represent you.

If you have any questions, please email Mr. Sacco at [william.sacco@woosterschool.org](mailto:william.sacco@woosterschool.org)