Representative Readings for Foundational Traditions

**Medieval Culture**

Augustine, *The Confessions*  
St. Athanasius, *The Life of St. Anthony the Great*  
*The Rule of St. Benedict*  
Eusebius, *In Praise of Constantine*  
Gelasius, *Letter on the Two Powers*  
Einhard, *Life of Charlemagne*  
*Medieval Europe*  
Charter of Cluny  
*Song of Roland*  
Boethius, *TheConsolation of Philosophy*  
*Letters of Abelard and Heloise*

**Renaissance and Reformation**

Petrarch, *Letters on Familiar Matters*, and “Letter to Posterity”  
Shakespeare, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Twelfth Night*, *Hamlet*, *Othello*, *Henry IV*, *King Lear*, *Macbeth*, *The Tempest*  
daVinci, Selections from *The Notebooks*  
Machiavelli, *The Prince*  
Erasmus, *The Praise of Folly*, and *The Education of a Christian Prince*  
Montaigne, Selections from *The Essays*  
Cervantes, *Don Quixote*  
John Dillenberger, ed. *Martin Luther: Selections From His Writings*.  
Ernst Cassier. *The Renaissance Philosophy of Man*.

**Enlightenment and Its Critics**

Descartes, *Discourse on Method*  
Spinoza, *Theological-Political Treatise*  
Hobbes, *Leviathan*  
Locke, *Second Treatise, and A Letter Concerning Toleration*  
Bayle, *Reason and Faith: Selections from the Works of Pierre Bayle*  
Swift, *Gulliver’s Travels*  
Voltaire, *Candide*  
Rousseau, *On the Social Contract, First and Second Discourses, and Emile*  
Adam Smith, Selections from *Theory of Moral Sentiments* and *The Wealth of Nations*  
Hume, *Treatise of Human Nature*, and *An Enquiry Concern Human Understanding*  
Kant, *What is Enlightenment, and The Idea of a Universal History*  
Burke, *Reflections on the Revolution in France*  
Thomas Paine, *Common Sense* and *African Slavery in America*  
The Federalist Papers  
Mary Wollstonecraft, *A Vindication of the Rights of Women*